

What are we doing?

Most recently, we have been working with measuring perimeter and area.

This week, the students will work on conceptual tasks for area like estimating the area of classroom spaces using actual 1 square yard pieces....and also have learned to count the amount of space (of a shape) covered with 1 centimeter grids. Beyond that, they will be introduced to the idea of the “formula” (or in their case a number model representing an array) to calculate area. **This last skill sequges nicely into learning about arrays in our next (multiplication) unit.**

What's next?

Unit 4 provides 3rd graders with a lot of background in multiplication and division. There are many conceptual opportunities for learning. This unit also stresses the relationship between multiplication and division as well as practical application and problem solving.

Although the emphasis of this unit is on multiplication, 3rd graders **will not** be expected to memorize all their multiplication facts any time soon. ☺ Of course, I will extend from the teacher’s manual and provide them with plenty of practice of multiplication facts....however, please don’t think there is an expectation that the students know all their facts by the end of this unit. Really! I hope to provide some challenge for those who know many of their multiplication facts, but make the learning fun and comfortable for those who are just learning their X facts.

Internet Resources for Multiplication**Some fun ways for kids to practice multiplication on the computer at home**

Multiplication Baseball (almost the same as the one that will be played at school)

<http://www.funbrain.com/math/index.html>

Multiplication Tunnel Blaster

<http://www.playkidsgames.com/games/Tunnel/MULTIPLY.HTM#>

Academic Skill Builder games (an assortment, both multiplication and division)

<http://www.arcademicskillbuilders.com/>

Multiplication Facts Puzzle

http://www.wmnet.org.uk/wmnet/custom/files_uploaded/uploaded_resources/504/multiplicationpuzzle.swf

Multiplication/Division “machine”

http://www.channel4learning.com/sites/puzzlemaths/md_machine_game.shtml

Very fun....multiples of ten

<http://resources.oswego.org/games/Ghostblasters1/gbcd.html>

Multiplication.com—a plethora of interactive games to choose from!

http://www.multiplication.com/interactive_games.htm

A little more advanced....2 player....The Product Game

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/ActivityDetail.aspx?ID=29>

Internet Resources

For practice:

Interactive ruler:

<http://www.funbrain.com/cgi-bin/meas.cgi?A1=s&A2=0&A3=1&INSTRUCTS=1>

The ruler game: Choose timer on or off and choose “quarters” to measure to the nearest quarter inch which is what they should master this school-year.

<http://www.rickyspears.com/rulergame/>

And for a brain stretcher visit my *webpage on our district website and look for “measurement project” under documents. Please disregard the grading portion as this is just for fun at home. In case you have kids at home



making up math problems on Sunday nights for fun.

*http://www.hsd153.org/teacher_list/teacher_list.asp?SchoolID=3&path=3004

look for my name, view “downloads”, and look for the document titled Measurement Project.