# 3rd Grade English Language Arts Curriculum

## Memories Unit

**Essential Question Studied:**
- How do we hold onto memories?
- Why are memories important?
- How do we write effective stories?

**Key Reading Concepts**
- returning to text and discussing the ideas within deepens our understanding of the text
- infer character’s feelings from text clues
- authors make choices when writing, including events and details for a reason

**Key Writing Concepts**
- write narratives with beginning, middle and end paragraphs
- use the writing process to strengthen narrative writing
- include areas where the reader needs to infer character’s feelings in their own writing by “showing, not telling”

**Key texts used:**
personal narratives by Patricia Polacco

## Structures of Life Unit

**(Science content)**

**Essential Question Studied**
- How do structures and adaptations support survival?

**Key Reading Concepts**
- identify main idea and supporting details in informational text
- text features can help determine genre and help us locate information in an informational text
- taking notes helps us remember and organize ideas from a text

**Key Writing Concepts**
- research is based on facts from informational text
- write a research piece with an introduction, body and conclusion
- create text features in their own writing

**Key texts used:**
variety of informational articles from National Geographic Explorer and other sources

## Overcoming Challenges Unit

**Essential Question Studied**
- How do people adapt to meet challenges?
- How does understanding a genre help a reader comprehend the text?

**Key Reading Concepts**
- understand fantasy genre
- infer character traits from text clues
- identify author’s message based on text clues
- make appropriate predictions based on text clues

**Key Writing Concepts**
- answer a question about text, supporting their thinking with evidence from the text
- write a fantasy story using the narrative plan

## Making a Difference Unit

**(Social Studies Content)**

**Essential Question Studied**
- What makes someone extraordinary?

**Key Reading Concepts**
- identify important events in a person’s life when reading a biography or informational piece
- taking notes helps us remember and organize ideas from a text

**Key Writing Concepts**
- write an opinion piece with an introduction, body and conclusion
- support an opinion with reasons, sometimes
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Lake Stevens School District Elementary Curriculum</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Key texts used</strong></td>
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<td>Poppy by Avi</td>
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- and structure
  - revise writing using feedback from peers

- from multiple sources