

**New Curriculum Big Ideas  
Reference Document for Teacher Planning and Communicating Student Learning**

The following compilation is from the first draft of the new curriculum. It is a living document and as the Ministry of Education adds to the document this resource will be updated in the portal. Please contact [kdawson@sd71.bc.ca](mailto:kdawson@sd71.bc.ca) if you notice that this reference document has not been updated.

## Grade 3

Big Idea	Pop Out
<b>Language Arts</b>	
Language and stories can be a source of creativity and joy.	(stories) Narrative texts that teach us about human nature, motivation, behaviour, and experience, and often reflect a personal journey or strengthen a sense of identity. They may also be considered the embodiment of collective wisdom. Stories can be oral, written, or visual, and used to instruct, inspire, and entertain listeners and readers.
Stories help us learn about ourselves, our families, and our communities.	
Everyone can be a reader and a writer	
Listening and speaking helps us to explore, share, and develop our ideas.	
Using language in creative and playful ways helps us understand how language works.	
Readers use strategies to make sense of what they read, hear, and view.	
<b>Mathematics</b>	
Number represents and describes quantity: Parts of wholes can be represented by fractions.	
Developing computational fluency comes from a strong sense of number: Flexible decomposing and composing are used when adding, subtracting, multiplying, and dividing whole numbers.	
We use patterns to represent identified regularities and to form generalizations: The regular change in increasing and decreasing patterns can be identified.	
We can describe, measure, and compare spatial relationships: Standard units are used to measure attributes of objects shapes.	
Analyzing data and chance help us to compare and interpret: The likelihood of possible outcomes can be examined.	
<b>Science</b>	
Living things are diverse, can be grouped, and interact in their ecosystems.	Questions to support inquiry with students: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What is biodiversity?</li> <li>• What is the relationship between observable characteristics of living things and biodiversity?</li> <li>• How does Aboriginal knowledge of living things honour interconnectedness?</li> </ul>
All matter is made of particles.	Questions to support inquiry with students:

	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Why is matter known as the material of the universe?</li> <li>• What is an atom? What are its parts?</li> </ul>
Thermal energy can be produced and transferred.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• What are the sources of thermal energy?</li> <li>• How is thermal energy transferred between objects?</li> </ul>
Wind, water, and ice change the shape of the land.	<p>Questions to support inquiry with students:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• How is the shape of the land changed by environmental factors?</li> <li>• What are landforms?</li> <li>• What landforms do you have in your local area?</li> </ul>
<b>Social Studies</b>	
Learning about indigenous peoples nurtures multicultural awareness and respect for diversity.	
People from diverse cultures and societies share some common experiences and aspects of life.	
Indigenous knowledge is passed down through oral history, traditions, and collective memory.	
Indigenous societies throughout the world value the well-being of the self, the land, spirits, and ancestors.	
<b>Career Education</b>	
Main focus is on Awareness and Exploration. Understanding deepens through Awareness and Explorations of:	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Decision-making and planning processes</li> <li>• Learning styles</li> <li>• Information acquisition and analysis</li> <li>• Leadership</li> <li>• Role of mentors in the learning journey</li> </ul>	
<b>Physical and Health Education</b>	
Daily participation in physical activity at moderate to vigorous intensity levels benefits all aspects of our well-being.	
Movement skills and strategies help us learn how to participate in different types of physical activity	
Adopting healthy personal practices and safety strategies protects ourselves and others.	
Having good communication skills and managing our emotions enables us to develop and maintain healthy relationships.	
Our physical, emotional, and mental health are interconnected.	
<b>Arts Education</b>	
The mind and body work together when creating works of art.	(arts) The results of creative processes in disciplines such as dance, drama, music, and visual arts.
Creative experiences involve interplay between exploration, inquiry, and purposeful choice.	
Dance, drama, music, and visual arts are each unique languages for creating and communicating.	
The arts connect our experiences to the experiences of	

others.	
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