The Common Core State Standards for English Language Arts

Overview
These standards describe what students should know and be able to do in order to be college and career ready in the 21st century. Students who master the standards will be fluent readers, critical thinkers, informative writers, effective speakers, and engaged listeners. They will effectively comprehend complex informational and literary texts and respond, as warranted by the task, using technology as a source of information and a means of communication.

The standards are divided into four strands: reading, (including literature and informational text and foundational skills), writing, speaking and listening, and language. The standards are organized by grade level for kindergarten through grade eight and by two grade spans for high school.

The foundational skills standards for kindergarten through grade five foster students’ understanding and knowledge of concepts of print, the alphabetic principle, and other basic conventions. Developing phonological awareness, phonics and word recognition, and fluency are addressed in these standards.

Specific information on the CCSS can be found at: http://www.corestandards.org

*Individual grade-specific standards can be identified by their strand, grade, and standard number. For example, RL.3.6 stands for Reading Literature Text, grade 3, standard 6.

As Washington State moves to the Common Core State Standards, third grade students will continue to learn current Washington GLEs while transitioning to the CCSS. This snapshot features some of the shifts, however, it is not intended to be an all-inclusive list of changes in the standards.

Reading
• Distinguish their own point of view from that of the narrator or character(s). (RL.3.6)*

Writing
• Write opinion pieces on topics or texts, supporting a point of view with reasons. (W.3.1)
• Conduct short research projects that build knowledge about a topic. (W.3.7)

Speaking and Listening
• Come to discussions prepared, having read or studied required material; explicitly draw on that preparation and other information known about the topic to explore ideas under discussion. (SL.3.1a)

Language
• Form and use possessives. (L.3.2d)