

# Third Grade News

May 2021

## Curriculum Matters

**Reading** - The third grade will be beginning Unit 5: Research Clubs. This unit allows students to work in clubs and study animals. Students will work together to study an animal and will learn to use different texts to synthesize information about different subtopics. Students will then work with their research club to grow ideas about the animal they're studying.

**Writing** – The third grade will collaborate to write “club books” about animals they research in the reading unit. Students will deepen their informational writing skills in a few critical areas which include structure, elaboration, organization, and craft. These goals are mirrored in the *Research Clubs: Elephants, Penguins, and Frogs, Oh My! Unit* where students are taught to identify different text structures. Students will use these structures to take notes, synthesize information together as they take notes and teach, and to carefully consider the choices that the author made.

**Math**- This month students are working on representing and understanding data using picture graphs, bar graphs and line plots. Students will also learn how to find and measure perimeter.

**Social Studies**- Students will continue to learn about Nigeria. They will understand what life was like in Nigeria in the past and today. Students will learn how the people, geography, and traditional culture of Nigeria has shaped its past and present. They will also compare the culture and government of Nigeria to the United States to create global connections.

**Science**- Students will continue to learn about grove snails. They will investigate how organisms in a population can have different traits, and how these traits make it easier or harder for an organism to meet its needs in its environment. Students will learn how organisms with adaptive traits are more likely to survive in their environment, while organisms with non-adaptive traits are less likely to survive in their environment. Students will also observe that when an environment changes, traits that were adaptive might now be non-adaptive, and how that doesn't mean that organisms can decide to change their traits to survive.

## Important Dates!

- **May 3<sup>rd</sup>** - New York State Math Test
- **May 13<sup>th</sup>** – Eid Al-Fitr, No School
- **May 28<sup>th</sup>** – 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Virtual Puppetry in Practice Field Trip
- **May 31<sup>st</sup>** - Memorial Day, No School

## Reminders

- Students should be practicing their multiplication and division facts every day.
- Students should be building stamina in reading by increasing their reading time to **forty minutes** as part of their nightly homework.