

Gentle Grammar & Writing Checklist – Grade 3

A guide for parents to review writing together with encouragement and grace.

After your child completes a writing activity, take a few minutes to go over it together. This isn't about pointing out every mistake—it's about building confidence and helping them grow in their writing skills over time.

Basic Review:

- Start by reading the writing out loud together. This helps catch small mistakes and helps your child hear how their writing flows.
- Look to see if each sentence begins with a capital letter.
- Make sure each sentence ends with the right punctuation (period, question mark, or exclamation point).
- Check that words are spaced clearly so the writing is easy to read.
- Notice if the spelling looks mostly correct for words your child knows.
- Talk about whether the writing stays on topic from beginning to end.

Gentle Growth Ideas:

- Ask if they used any describing words or “sparkle words” to make their writing more interesting.
- Point out any places where they could add more detail to help the reader understand.
- Talk about using time-order words like “first,” “next,” and “finally” if they're telling a story or giving steps.
- Celebrate their effort and bravery in writing, even if there are mistakes.

Remember: In 3rd grade, the goal is not perfection—it's progress. Let creativity come first, and gently help with mechanics as they grow more confident.