Third Grade Program In third grade, Aldar Academy students are taught to have a more advanced use of the English language, including grammar, writing, and reading skills. In mathematics students learn the basic multiplication facts, the division process, have an understanding of fractions and decimals, explore algebraic and geometric methods and improve their problem solving skills.

Language Arts (includes Reading, Spelling and Writing) Our language arts program is a comprehensive, whole language approach to learning. Several components make up our program that is designed to refine decoding, grammar, comprehension, literary, and writing skills. Students continue to develop their comprehension skills and strategies, information and study skills, decoding, writing, grammar usage and mechanics, spelling, vocabulary, and speaking skills. Their comprehension skills and strategies are expanded by categorizing and classifying information, identifying the sequence of events, making inferences, drawing conclusions, and making generalizations. Information and study skills are developed by identifying the parts of the book, taking notes, using reference materials and multimedia resources, and learning the technique of skimming and scanning materials to improve their rate of reading. The student’s writing skills continue to be developed by more complex independent, shared, and coached writing activities which include more advanced punctuation and varying sentence types. Grammar usage and mechanics are developed by understanding the different parts of a sentence and sentence structure. Vocabulary and spelling are developed with the use of dictionaries, and word families. The students continue to develop their speaking skills with group discussions, an introduction to nonverbal communication skills, and giving a persuasive speech. The third grader will be exposed to a variety of culturally diverse literature, poetry, fictional stories, and mythology. Instruction takes place on an individual, small group, and whole-class basis.

**Ma**thematics In third grade, students are deepening their knowledge of basic facts and understanding of conceptual mathematics. Aldar Academy does our best to ensure that each student progresses at his or her ability. By the end of the third grade, the student should have thorough knowledge of basic addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division facts. Students should be able to use number sense to identify ordinal numbers, Roman numerals, and locate positive and negative numbers on a number line. In addition, students should be able to recognize and compare fractions to 1/10. Students should be able to add, subtract, multiply and divide amounts of money. The third grader will also be encouraged to use linear measurement, weight(mass), capacity(volume), temperature, and time accurately. Students continue to develop an understanding of mathematic operations, geometry, measurement, algebra, data analysis and probability, and mathematical processes. They develop a positive attitude towards math by incorporating activities which introduce math concepts into their daily activities. If a student masters the concepts, he or she is encouraged to work ahead while being instructed by the teacher. Our small group and individual instruction helps the student succeed within his or her own potential.

**Soc**ial Studies We believe that the goal of a balanced elementary social studies program is to prepare students to participate in society with the knowledge and skills that enable them to be actively and constructively involved. Students continue to develop an understanding of citizenship, history, geography, economics, and culture through literature, illustrated narratives, activities and assessments. They expand their understanding of citizenship by identifying the characteristics of a democracy and how leaders are elected into a democracy. Their history knowledge is expanded by identifying how buildings and other landmarks reflect a community’s past as well as identifying the effects transportation and population have on the environment. An understanding of geography is developed by identifying the physical processes that shape environments and the varying landforms and geographic features. Their understanding of economics is expanded by appreciating the relationship between price, supply and demand as well as the relationship between workers and customers. The student’s understanding of culture is developed by identifying how cultural influences affect historic events and one’s values, beliefs and attitudes. Our students thrive in their social studies experience through discussions, stories, drama, art, and music.

**Scie**nce Our program captivates students and makes them eager to learn. Our effective style of instruction requires hands-on instruction and observation. Students continue to develop their understanding of physical and life sciences through the use of visual resources, literature, and teacher directed experiments. The students develop an understanding of life and earth sciences by exploring plants, animals, water, weather, rocks, soils, changes on earth, and natural resources. They expand on their understanding of physical science by exploring matter, its properties and changes, forces and motion, energy and sound. They explore space and technology by understanding the patterns in the sky and the solar system. Using the scientific method, the class performs science experiments which develop conceptual understanding. The third grader’s interest in science comes to life through hands on experience and small group instruction.

**Music** Children will sing songs both familiar and new to them to help develop their sense of pitch. Movement is also introduced to help children with coordination skills. Music and drama are great tools for helping children to build self-esteem. Students are exposed to the concepts of music, the family of instruments, the beginning written forms of music, and the components of the orchestra.

**Visual** Arts Students continue to develop an appreciation for the fine arts. Students continue their exposure to the elements of making and appreciating art by developing their knowledge of the use of light, space (the difference between two-dimensional and three dimensional shapes), and how the elements of art work together through observations, discussion, and modeling. Painting, drawing, collage, and clay sculptures are examples of projects that provide students with opportunities to express their ideas and emotions.

**Physical** Education (PE) Students continue to develop an understanding of physical activity, team sports, and sportsmanship through a variety of individual and group activities, games and organized sports. The students develop coordination, grace and control along with a sense of fair play and cooperation. They are provided opportunities in planning, organizing and leading sports activities

**Computers** Students continue to develop their typing skills by utilizing Interactive Software, and reinforce their reading and math skills through the use of software. In addition they develop an understanding of technology and it’s usefulness in the classroom through individual activities and programs.