

3rd Grade — Passages & Source Index

Teach BIG® Writing Curriculum • The Writing Academy®, LLC • Grade 3

Every reading passage across 3rd grade, by cluster. In the Prepare Cluster through Cluster 7, the same passage set anchors all four modules and grows in length and complexity across Modules 1-4 (Low → Medium → High → Very High stamina). Cluster 8 is a research capstone that draws on several sources per module.

CLUSTER	READING PASSAGE(S) / SOURCES	STAMINA (MODULES 1-4)
Prepare <i>Genre Selection & Narrative (TRAILS)</i>	The Mystery of the Traveling Shell — Fiction mentor text — Modules 1-2 The Recess Question — Fiction mentor text — Modules 3-4	Low → Medium → High → Very High Fiction mentor texts for genre selection & TRAILS; rising stamina, M1-M4
Cluster 1 <i>Short Constructed Response (SCR)</i>	The Pilgrims Chose Plymouth • Informational (Nonfiction) Life Along the Nile River • Informational (Nonfiction)	Low → Medium → High → Very High Same two passages, M1-M4 (SCR)
Cluster 2 <i>SCR with TREES</i>	Laura Ingalls Wilder • Biography (Nonfiction) Carmen Lomas Garza • Biography (Nonfiction)	Low → Medium → High → Very High Same two passages, M1-M4 (TREES / SCR)
Cluster 3 <i>SCR — Reasons & Matching</i>	Why We Need Laws • Nonfiction The Lunchroom Discoveries • Fiction	Low → Medium → High → Very High Same two passages, M1-M4 (prompt analysis, reasons/evidence)
Cluster 4 <i>Informational ECR (MICE / GET SET)</i>	Benjamin Franklin and Electricity • Informational (Nonfiction) The Founding Fathers • Informational (Nonfiction)	Low → Medium → High → Very High Same two passages, M1-M4 (informational ECR)
Cluster 5 <i>Paired-Passage ECR (Evidence Bridge / R1-R2-R3)</i>	Henry Ford: Visionary of Travel • Biography (Nonfiction) Sam Walton: Visionary of Retail • Biography (Nonfiction)	Low → Medium → High → Very High Paired passages read together, M1-M4
Cluster 6 <i>Argumentative (CREATURES)</i>	Crash • Fiction The Good Citizen • Fiction	Low → Medium → High → Very High Same two passages, M1-M4 (argumentative claims / CREATURES)
Cluster 7 <i>Poetry (LEAVES)</i>	A Dream Can Grow • Poetry (poem • Dr. Martin Luther King Jr. / hope) What Will You Give? • Poetry (poem • President John F. Kennedy / service)	Low → Medium → High → Very High The SAME two poems in all four modules, rising stamina
Cluster 8 <i>Research Capstone (year-end)</i>	A Place to Grow (Passage 15) + Community Quest Kids • Research sources (<i>Simulated</i>) — Module 1 People Make the Difference (Passage 16) + Small Choices + poems 13/14 • Research sources (<i>Simulated</i>) — Modules 2-3 ALL Cluster 8 sources + 3+ earlier Grade 3 passages • Whole-year synthesis — Module 4	Very High throughout Multiple sources per module; M4 synthesizes the whole year