



Kaizly 3rd Grade Readiness Assessment

2026 Edition · about 25 minutes · kaizly.com

A note for parents: This assessment checks the core skills most children have by the end of 2nd grade, so your rising 3rd grader can start the year with confidence. Keep it relaxed: sit nearby, offer encouragement, and treat it like a game rather than a test. When you finish, use the answer sheet at the back to see which skills are solid and which could use a little practice.

Section 1: Reading

Instructions: Have your child read the passage aloud while you listen for smooth, fluent reading, then answer the five questions below.

Maya wanted to grow a pumpkin for the fall fair. In the spring, she planted a seed in a sunny corner of the yard. Every morning she watered it before breakfast. Soon a tiny green sprout appeared. All season long, Maya pulled weeds and checked the leaves. By the end of the season, the vine had grown one enormous pumpkin. It was so big that Maya could not lift it by herself. Her dad helped her roll it into a wagon. At the fair, Maya's pumpkin won a blue ribbon. Maya grinned all the way home. All of her hard work had paid off.

1. What is this story mostly about?

2. What did Maya do every morning to help her pumpkin grow?

3. The story says the vine grew one enormous pumpkin. What does the word enormous mean?

4. Why do you think Maya's dad helped her roll the pumpkin into a wagon?

5. Write one thing that happened at the beginning of the story, one thing from the middle, and one thing from the end.

Section 2: Writing

Instructions: Read each task to your child if needed, then have them write their answers on the lines.

1. Write a short paragraph of 3 to 5 sentences about your favorite game or activity. Tell what it is and why you like it.

2. Fix this sentence and rewrite it correctly: my friend jake plays soccer on saturday

3. Combine these two short sentences into one sentence: The dog is little. The dog barks loudly.

Section 3: Math

Instructions: Have your child solve each problem and write the answer on the line, showing any work in the space provided.

1. Solve: $9 + 6$

2. Solve: $14 - 8$

3. Solve: $47 + 28$

4. Solve: $62 - 37$

5. In the number 358, what is the value of the digit 5?

6. There are 4 bags with 5 apples in each bag. Skip count by 5s to find how many apples there are in all.

7. You have 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies. How much money do you have in all?

8. Liam had 45 stickers. He gave 18 stickers to his sister. Then he bought 30 more. How many stickers does Liam have now?

Section 4: Science

Instructions: Read each question with your child and have them write or say their answer.

1. Name two things a plant needs to live and grow.

2. A thermometer outside reads 70 degrees in the morning and 85 degrees in the afternoon. When was it warmer, and by how many degrees?

Section 5: Social Studies

Instructions: Read each question with your child and have them write or say their answer.

1. On a map, north is usually at the top. If you are facing north, what direction is behind you?

2. Why do we have rules at school and laws in our community?

3. Independence Day, on July 4th, celebrates the birthday of which country?



Kaizly 3rd Grade Readiness Assessment (Parent Answer Sheet)

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Section 1: Reading

Maya wanted to grow a pumpkin for the fall fair. In the spring, she planted a seed in a sunny corner of the yard. Every morning she watered it before breakfast. Soon a tiny green sprout appeared. All season long, Maya pulled weeds and checked the leaves. By the end of the season, the vine had grown one enormous pumpkin. It was so big that Maya could not lift it by herself. Her dad helped her roll it into a wagon. At the fair, Maya's pumpkin won a blue ribbon. Maya grinned all the way home. All of her hard work had paid off.

1. What is this story mostly about?

Hint: Ask your child to think about the whole story, not just one part of it.

Answer: Maya works hard to grow a pumpkin and wins a ribbon at the fair; her hard work pays off.

Explanation: Finding the main idea of a short story is a key end-of-2nd-grade comprehension skill that 3rd grade builds on heavily.

2. What did Maya do every morning to help her pumpkin grow?

Hint: The answer is right in the story; your child can look back to find it.

Answer: She watered it before breakfast.

Explanation: This checks whether your child can locate a supporting detail stated directly in the text.

3. The story says the vine grew one enormous pumpkin. What does the word enormous mean?

Hint: Have your child reread the next sentence: what could Maya not do by herself?

Answer: Very big; huge.

Explanation: Using context clues to figure out a new word is the vocabulary skill 3rd grade texts will demand constantly.

4. Why do you think Maya's dad helped her roll the pumpkin into a wagon?

Hint: The story does not say exactly why, so your child has to put two clues together.

Answer: The pumpkin was too big and heavy for Maya to lift or move by herself.

Explanation: This checks simple inference: combining clues from the text with common sense to answer a question the story does not state outright.

5. Write one thing that happened at the beginning of the story, one thing from the middle, and one thing from the end.

Hint: Your child can retell the story out loud first, then write the three parts.

Answer: Beginning: Maya planted a seed. Middle: she watered it, pulled weeds, and the pumpkin grew enormous. End: the pumpkin won a blue ribbon at the fair.

Explanation: Describing a story's beginning, middle, and end shows your child can track sequence, a core retelling skill for 3rd grade reading.

Assessment Recommendations

- Needs Improvement:** Reading is the single biggest lever for 3rd grade, so make it a warm daily habit rather than a chore. Aim for 15 to 20 minutes of reading together each day: you read a page, your child reads a page, and then talk about what happened. After each story, ask one main idea question and one why question, and let your child retell the beginning, middle, and end in their own words. Graphic novels, joke books, and books about your child's favorite animals all count. If you want structured practice with instant feedback, Kaizly builds short daily reading activities matched to your child's level.
- Approaching Ready:** Your child has the pieces; now build fluency and stamina. Keep a daily 15-minute reading habit and gently stretch the difficulty with slightly longer chapter books or kids' nonfiction. Reread favorite books out loud to build smoothness, and pause now and then to ask what a tricky word might mean from the clues around it. A weekly library trip where your child picks the books keeps motivation high.
- Ready or Above:** Your reader is ready to roll, so feed the fire. Offer chapter book series, kids' magazines, and nonfiction about topics they love, and let them read a little past bedtime as a treat. Stretch comprehension by asking comparison questions: how were these two characters alike, or which book about sharks was more useful and why? Encourage your child to keep a simple reading log or recommend books to friends and family, which builds the habit of thinking about what they read.

Section 2: Writing

1. Write a short paragraph of 3 to 5 sentences about your favorite game or activity. Tell what it is and why you like it.

Hint: Remind your child to start each sentence with a capital letter and end it with a period, question mark, or exclamation point.

Answer: Answers vary. Look for 3 to 5 complete sentences that stay on one topic, start with capital letters, end with punctuation, and spell basic words (like house, friend, because) mostly correctly.

Explanation: Writing a connected paragraph on one topic with correct capitals, end punctuation, and mostly correct spelling of common words is the core end-of-2nd-grade writing expectation.

2. Fix this sentence and rewrite it correctly: my friend jake plays soccer on saturday

Hint: Ask your child to hunt for missing capital letters and the missing end mark.

Answer: My friend Jake plays soccer on Saturday.

Explanation: This checks capitalization of the first word, names, and days of the week, plus ending a sentence with punctuation.

3. Combine these two short sentences into one sentence: The dog is little. The dog barks loudly.

Hint: There is more than one right way; the new sentence just needs to include both ideas.

Answer: The little dog barks loudly. (Also correct: The dog is little, but it barks loudly.)

Explanation: Combining short sentences shows your child understands how sentences are built, which leads to stronger, more varied writing in 3rd grade.

Assessment Recommendations

- Needs Improvement:** Young writers grow fastest when writing feels useful and fun, not graded. Give your child real reasons to write a few sentences every day: a note to grandma, a wish list, labels for their drawings, or one line in a shared family journal. When they finish, have them read it back and touch each capital letter and end mark like a detective checking for clues. Keep your feedback to one fix at a time and always point out something they did well first.

- Approaching Ready:** Your child can write sentences; the next step is connecting them into a paragraph that sticks to one topic. Try a daily two-minute prompt like the best part of my day or an animal I would invent, and ask for three sentences that all belong together. Play sentence-stretching games at dinner: start with The cat ran and take turns adding where, when, or why. Celebrate the ideas first, then do one quick check together for capitals and punctuation.
- Ready or Above:** Your child is ready to write with voice and purpose. Encourage longer pieces: a made-up story with a beginning, middle, and end, a how-to guide for their favorite game, or a kid-review of a restaurant or movie. Introduce simple revision by asking them to add one juicy describing word or combine two short sentences into a smoother one. Making a stapled mini-book or typing a story to share with family turns writing into something they are proud to show off.

Section 3: Math

1. Solve: $9 + 6$

Hint: Notice whether your child answers quickly or needs to count; facts within 20 should feel fast by now.

Answer: 15

Explanation: Quick addition facts within 20 are expected by the end of 2nd grade and are the base for 3rd grade multiplication.

2. Solve: $14 - 8$

Hint: If your child gets stuck, suggest thinking of it as 8 plus what makes 14.

Answer: 6

Explanation: Subtraction facts within 20 should be fluent, since 3rd grade assumes them in longer problems.

3. Solve: $47 + 28$

Hint: Watch whether your child remembers to carry when the ones add up to more than 9.

Answer: 75

Explanation: Two-digit addition with regrouping ($7 + 8 = 15$, carry the ten) is a key end-of-2nd-grade computation skill.

4. Solve: $62 - 37$

Hint: Ask your child what to do when there are not enough ones to subtract from.

Answer: 25

Explanation: Two-digit subtraction with regrouping (borrowing a ten to make $12 - 7$) is where many rising 3rd graders need a refresher.

5. In the number 358, what is the value of the digit 5?

Hint: Ask your child which place the 5 is sitting in: ones, tens, or hundreds.

Answer: 50 (the 5 is in the tens place, so it means 5 tens)

Explanation: Understanding place value in a 3-digit number shows your child sees numbers as hundreds, tens, and ones, not just digits.

6. There are 4 bags with 5 apples in each bag. Skip count by 5s to find how many apples there are in all.

Hint: Have your child count out loud: 5, 10, and keep going once for each bag.

Answer: 20 apples (5, 10, 15, 20)

Explanation: Skip counting equal groups is the bridge from 2nd grade counting to 3rd grade multiplication.

7. You have 2 quarters, 1 dime, and 3 pennies. How much money do you have in all?

Hint: Suggest starting with the biggest coins first and counting up.

Answer: 63 cents ($25 + 25 + 10 + 3$)

Explanation: Counting a mix of coins checks money values and the skill of counting on by 25s, 10s, and 1s.

8. Liam had 45 stickers. He gave 18 stickers to his sister. Then he bought 30 more. How many stickers does Liam have now?

Hint: Encourage your child to solve it in two steps and write down the number after the first step.

Answer: 57 stickers ($45 - 18 = 27$, then $27 + 30 = 57$)

Explanation: Two-step word problems check whether your child can hold a plan in mind and choose the right operation twice, a major 3rd grade demand.

Assessment Recommendations

Needs Improvement:	Focus first on making addition and subtraction facts within 20 fast and automatic, because everything in 3rd grade math stacks on top of them. Five minutes a day of flash cards, a facts app, or a quick game of math war with playing cards goes a long way. Fold math into real life: have your child count coins from a jar, add up prices at the store, or measure ingredients while you cook together. When two-digit problems come up, use dimes and pennies to act out regrouping so borrowing and carrying make physical sense.
Approaching Ready:	The facts are mostly there, so now build speed and confidence with regrouping. Do a few two-digit addition and subtraction problems a day and have your child talk through the carrying or borrowing step out loud. Practice skip counting by 2s, 5s, and 10s in the car or while bouncing a ball, since it is the on-ramp to multiplication. Real-world money problems, like making change from a dollar, sneak in exactly the skills 3rd grade expects.
Ready or Above:	Your child has a strong foundation, so give them a head start on multiplication thinking. Play with equal groups everywhere: how many wheels on 6 cars, how many legs on 5 dogs, how many muffins in 3 rows of 4. Introduce simple arrays with cereal pieces or coins and let them discover that 3 rows of 4 matches 4 rows of 3. Challenge them with two-step word problems you invent about their own toys and games, and let them make up problems to stump you too.

Section 4: Science

1. Name two things a plant needs to live and grow.

Hint: Ask your child to picture what they would give a garden plant every day.

Answer: Any two of: water, sunlight, air, soil (nutrients).

Explanation: Knowing the basic needs of living things is a foundational life-science idea that 3rd grade builds on with plant and animal life cycles.

2. A thermometer outside reads 70 degrees in the morning and 85 degrees in the afternoon. When was it warmer, and by how many degrees?

Hint: First ask which number is bigger, then how far apart the two numbers are.

Answer: The afternoon was warmer, by 15 degrees.

Explanation: This checks whether your child knows a thermometer measures temperature and can compare two measurements, a simple data skill used in 3rd grade science.

Assessment Recommendations

Needs Improvement:	Science at this age is mostly noticing and asking why, so no workbook is needed. Plant a seed in a cup and have your child water it and watch what happens, or care for a houseplant together and talk about what it needs. Point out tools around you: the thermometer, a measuring cup, a ruler, and let your child read the numbers. Narrate little experiments out loud, like which ice cube melts faster in the sun or the shade, and let your child guess before you check.
Approaching Ready:	Your child has the basics, so add a little measuring and recording. Keep a simple weather chart for a week where your child reads the temperature and draws the sky, then talk about which day was warmest. Compare things around the house: which plant grew taller, which cup holds more water, which object is heavier. Library books about animals, weather, and how things work feed the curiosity that 3rd grade science rewards.
Ready or Above:	Feed this scientist real investigations. Let your child design a fair test, like whether plants grow better in the window or the closet, and record what happens over a week or two. Visits to a nature center, zoo, or science museum, plus kid-friendly documentaries, add fuel, especially if your child explains their favorite part back to you. Encourage a nature notebook with drawings, measurements, and questions they want to answer next.

Section 5: Social Studies

1. On a map, north is usually at the top. If you are facing north, what direction is behind you?

Hint: Have your child picture a compass rose with north, south, east, and west.

Answer: South

Explanation: Basic map and compass direction skills are part of the community and geography learning most children get in 2nd grade.

2. Why do we have rules at school and laws in our community?

Hint: Ask your child what might happen at recess or on the road if there were no rules at all.

Answer: To keep people safe and help everyone get along and be treated fairly.

Explanation: Understanding the purpose of rules and laws is a civics basic that 3rd grade expands into how communities and governments work.

3. Independence Day, on July 4th, celebrates the birthday of which country?

Hint: Think of the flags and fireworks; whose birthday is the celebration for?

Answer: The United States of America

Explanation: Knowing their own country and what a major national holiday celebrates shows the world knowledge 2nd graders build about their community and nation.

Assessment Recommendations

Needs Improvement:	Social studies for a rising 3rd grader is really just noticing the community, so learn it out in the world. On errands, point out community helpers like firefighters, mail carriers, and librarians, and talk about what each job does for everyone. Hang a simple map of your town or the country on the wall and find your home, then trace routes to places you visit. When a rule comes up at home or at practice, ask your child why they think it exists, and around holidays, talk about what each one celebrates.
Approaching Ready:	Your child knows the basics, so add maps and stories. Let them navigate: hand them a simple map at the zoo or park and have them lead the way using north, south, east, and west. Talk about your own family history, where relatives came from, and find those places on a map or globe. Picture books about history and biographies of interesting people make great read-alouds that preview 3rd grade topics.

Ready or Above:

This is a great time to widen the lens from community to country and world. Explore a globe or atlas together and let your child collect places they want to visit, then read about one each week. Visit local landmarks, historical markers, or a small museum and have your child play tour guide afterward for the rest of the family. Try drawing a map of your neighborhood with a compass rose and a key, and talk about how people in charge, like mayors and city councils, make the rules that keep a town running.

Turn these results into a plan

Found a gap or two? That is exactly what this assessment is for. Kaizly builds a personalized, 20-minutes-a-day catch-up plan around your child's results and interests.

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