

# 3rd Grade Developmental Guide

## *What's Going on With My 3rd Grader?*

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade year is a year where the questions begin! Children at this age begin to ask more why, what if and how questions to gain a further understanding in school and in situations that involve conflict.

## PHYSICAL DEVELOPMENT

- Improved development of gross and fine motor skills
- There is an increase in self-sufficiency and confidence.
- Cognitively understand and remembering more in school, church and rules.
- Begins to understand the importance of sleep and rest.
- Weight management
- ♦ Improved social skills with friends and strangers.

## EMOTIONAL DEVELOPMENT

### **The 3rd Grader may:**

- ♦ Able to identify how the same emotion can mean different things in different circumstances (i.e. crying from happiness).
- ♦ Beginning to understand his/her own strengths and weaknesses
- ♦ Recognizes socially appropriate responses to emotions.
- ♦ Identifies how he/she can deal with upsetting emotions.
- ♦ Sees that overcoming obstacles are just steps to achieving goals.

## **RELATIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

- ◆ An increase interest in friends and social activities.
- ◆ Knows how to communicate their feelings and needs verbally.
- ◆ Understands that emotions play a big role in relationships.
- ◆ Developing the ability to respect and identify other people's perspectives and behaviors.

## **SPIRITUAL DEVELOPMENT**

- ◆ Begins asking questions such as, "Why God loves everyone?"
- ◆ More inquisitive about the characteristics of God and how His characteristics impact our lives.
- ◆ Begins relating what is learned from the Bible to their personal life.
- ◆ Tend to have further questions about salvation and what a fully-devoted follower of Christ looks like.