

Unit Overview: Parent Guide

Louisiana Purchase, Grade 3

What is the goal of this unit?

Your child will read fiction and nonfiction texts to learn about the Louisiana Purchase and the characteristics of pioneers during the early 1800s. Your child will also analyze primary source documents in this unit to help her understand the events leading up to the Louisiana Purchase and the results of that purchase.

What topics and skills is your third grader learning in this unit?

- Louisiana Purchase
- U.S. pioneers
- Primary source analysis
- Narrative writing
- Making connections between sentences and paragraphs
- Informational writing

What tasks will your child engage in to help them consider the topics and skills of this unit?

- **Culminating Writing Task:** Your child will bring together all her learning near the end of the unit by writing an essay that responds to the prompt: *Select three events that led to the United States acquiring the Louisiana Territory. Describe each event, including explaining what led to the event and the results of the event.*
- **Extension Task:** Your child will extend her learning by writing a narrative from Seaman's point of view based on an entry from *How We Crossed the West: The Adventures of Lewis and Clark*.

Your child will read these texts and listen to these audio clips:

Text Title	Author/Source	How it is used in the Unit
<i>The Louisiana Purchase: Would You Close the Deal? (What Would You Do?)</i>	Elaine Landau	Main text of the unit
<i>The Louisiana Purchase: From Independence to Lewis and Clark</i>	Michael Burgan	Student text
<i>Lewis and Clark and Me: A</i>	Laurie Myers	Student text

