



TCEA Vocabulary Bee

3rd Grade List

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Term	Definition
add	to combine; put together two or more quantities
addend	any number being added
area	the number of square units that covers a shape or figure
array	an orderly arrangement in rows and columns used in multiplication and division
associative property of multiplication	changing the way numbers in a multiplication sentence are grouped and multiplied does not change the answer
attribute	characteristic of an object such as color, shape, size, etc
commutative property of multiplication	changing the order of numbers in a multiplication sentence does not change the answer
compare	to tell how two or more things are alike or different
decompose	to separate into basic elements
denominator	the bottom part of a fraction, telling the total number of equal parts
difference	answer to a subtraction problem
digit	parts of a number. 5 and 4 are digits in the number 54
division	operation of making equal groups
elapsed time	the actual time taken by an event
equal	having the same amount
equation	number sentence with an equal sign

equivalent	same or equal
estimate	a number close to the exact number
expanded form	writing a number to show the value of each digit
expression	a mathematical phrase without an equal sign
factor	one of two or more expressions that are multiplied together to get a product
fraction	two quantities written one above the other, that shows how much of a whole is shown
hour	a period of sixty minutes
line plot	shows data on a number line with x or other marks to show frequency
mass	quantity of matter in an object
minute	period of 60 seconds
multiplication	operation of repeated addition
numerator	the top part of a fraction
parallelogram	a quadrilateral with opposite parallel sides
partition	to divide equally
perimeter	the sum of the lengths of the sides of a polygon
place value	the value of a digit in a number
plane figure	a 2-dimensional shape
polygon	closed plan figure made up of several line segments that are joined together
product	answer to a multiplication problem
quadrilateral	a four sided polygon
quotient	answer to a division problem
rectangle	plan figure with 4 sides and 4 square vertices
remainder	the number left over from a division problem
rhombus	parallelogram with four equal sides
round	to estimate to the nearest ten or hundred
scale	on a graph, a series numbers placed at fixed, or equal, distances
square	a plane figure with 4 equal sides and 4 square vertices
square unit	a unit of measurement that determines the area of a plane figure
standard form	to write a number using digits
sum	answer to an addition problem

third	one of three equal parts
unit fraction	a fraction with a numerator of 1
value	the amount a digit is worth in a number
word form	writing a number using words
grammar	A set of rules that specify how the units of language can be combined to produce meaningful messages
adjective	a word that describes a noun or a pronoun
antonym	a word opposite in meaning to another
apostrophe	the mark (') used to indicate the omission of one or more letters from a printed word; or used to show possession
command	an authoritative direction, instruction or statement telling someone to do something
exclamatory	sentence: a sentence expressing strong feeling, usually punctuated with an exclamation mark
homophone	One of two or more words pronounced alike, but different in spelling or meaning (e.g., hair/hare).
noun	person, place, thing or idea
predicate	The part of a sentence containing a verb and stating something about the subject
prefix	a group of letters placed at the beginning of a word to change its meaning
question	an expression of inquiry; to ask someone for information
quotation marks	punctuation marks that surround dialogue
root word	the word left when all affixes are removed
singular	denoting a single person or thing, contrasted to more than one.
plural	the form of a word that is used to denote more than one
statement	a message that is stated or declared
subject	who or what the sentence is about
suffix	an affix that is added at the end of the word, a letter or syllable added to the end of a word
synonym	Words that have similar or the same meaning
verb	action word
glossary	a list of definitions for terms or important words used in a certain text
cause/effect	The reason something happens and the result of it happening.

characters	the people or animals in a story
compare/contrast	finding similarities and differences between 2 things
context clues	information from the reading that helps the reader to identify the meaning of an unknown word
fact/opinion	a fact can be proved; an opinion is a belief and can not be supported by proof or evidence
fiction	Prose writing that involves imaginary events and/or people.
index	an alphabetical listing of names and topics along with page numbers where they are discussed
nonfiction	Writing that is true, telling about real-life people, places, things, or ideas.
problem/solution	having a problem, and then slowly working up to the solution through the climax of the story.
setting	where and when the story takes place
conclusion	The ending of a piece of writing that provides closure to the piece and expresses the author's feelings about his/her experience.
edit	correcting errors (spelling, punctuation, capitalization) in a piece of writing
indent	set a line of print in from the margin
paragraph	A section of a piece of writing, dealing with one topic.
revise	look at again to correct errors and make improvements; examine and improve
topic sentence	states the topic and tells the writer's main idea