

Reading Grades 3-6



This year your student will be participating in an exciting reading program created especially for middle-grade readers! The program is built on chapter book reading to increase reading interest. Students will learn to “read like detectives” as they improve reading skill. Join us in ensuring your student’s success by promoting a love of reading at home! Use the QR code to access home resources!



01 Read-Aloud

In class, students will listen and follow along as the teacher reads aloud. Students will discuss the book and write in response to reading.

WHY READ ALOUD TO OLDER STUDENTS?

To expose students to challenging books, model reading skill, discuss books together, and broaden students’ reading interests.

DID YOU KNOW?

85% of children ages 6-14 still enjoy having a parent read to them.

Make read-aloud part of your routine or listen to audio books together in the car!

02 Book Clubs

In class, students will be matched to a text according to their reading level. They will read and write about the book and meet in a small group to discuss what was read. Students will have the opportunity to increase their reading level as they grow in skill!

WHY OFFER DIFFERENT LEVELS OF BOOKS?

Students learn best when books provide just the right amount of challenge!

DID YOU KNOW?

The best way to enrich vocabulary is to read 20 minutes a day! Encourage reading 20 minutes a day or aim for 100 minutes a week.

03 Self-Selected Reading

Choice can be a big motivator when it comes to reading, but too much choice can be paralyzing! This is why books for the classroom library match the genres, topics and authors students enjoy in the program.

WHY LET STUDENTS SELF-SELECT BOOKS FOR HOME READING?

It is important for students to develop their own reading interests! Encourage reading books in a series and rereading favorite titles!

DID YOU KNOW?

Teachers and librarians are a great resource for helping you find the right book! If you can’t find the right book, enlist help! Try new books, authors, and genres!

Read like a detective!



Your student is learning to read using the **Collect-Interpret-Apply (CIA) Approach!**
The approach teaches students to break the task of reading into manageable steps:

STEP 1: Divide your book! Take the number of pages in the book and divide by 4.
Put sticky notes in the book to mark the end of each quadrant.

STEP 2: Stop when you get to the end of a quadrant. Discuss the book together!



✓ Quadrant 1

COLLECT critical information:

- Characters
- Setting (time and place)
- Problems
- Important Events

Discuss:

- Who are the important characters? What are you learning about them?
- Where and when does the story take place?
- What is the big problem in the book?
- Can you tell me what has happened so far in the book?

✓ Quadrants 2 & 3

INTERPRET the text:

- Main character traits
- Key repeated words
- Author's craft
- Author's message
- Text evidence

Discuss:

- What 3 words would you use to describe the main character?
- How does the author make this book enjoyable or interesting?
- What do you think will happen next?
- What is the author trying to tell you? What makes you think that?

✓ Quadrant 4

APPLY the text to your life:

- Synthesize the text
- Evaluate the text

Discuss:

- Tell me about your book!
- What do you think the author was trying to tell you? Why?
- Do you agree or disagree with the author's message? Why?
- Would you read another book like this one?



TIP: Increase your speed as you read!

Start slow in quadrant 1, speed up in quadrants 2 & 3, read all the way to the end in quadrant 4!

Genres of Reading

The [Read Side by Side Reading Program](#) teaches different genres of reading in order to increase students' interest in books! In class, new genres are introduced through the read-aloud. Students practice reading new genres on their own in book clubs. At home, encourage your student to read favorite genres, books, and authors! Here are some recommendations to try!

Realistic Fiction

- Realistic characters and setting.
- The main character changes over time.
- The plot is believable.



Fantasy

Talking Animals



- Realistic setting (no magic).
- Animals are given human qualities.
- The main character changes over time.

Historical Fiction

- Fictional main characters.
- Historical setting.
- The plot is believable and incorporates real, historical events.



Fantasy

Epic Fantasy (Quest)



- Realistic and fantastical elements.
- Time is relatively unimportant.
- Unexpected hero.
- Good and bad, right and wrong.

Science Fiction

- Realistic characters.
- Futuristic setting.
- The plot is believable based on current events.



Biography



- Tells about someone's life.
- Real place, past or present.
- Told chronologically from birth to death.

Mystery



- Realistic characters and setting.
- The main character gathers clues to solve a mystery.
- The main character's opinion of others will change over time.
- The plot is believable.
- The main character is put in danger.

Nonfiction

- Tells true information about people, places, ideas, and things.
 - Text features contribute to the meaning.
- Organization of the text:
- Problem & solution,
 - Cause & effect,
 - Compare & contrast,
 - Description (main idea & details).



Favorite Books:

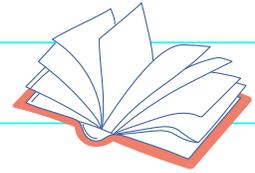
Poppy series, Avi
Ramona series, Cleary
Henry & Ribsy series, Cleary
Superfudge series, Cleary
Superslugger series, Markey
Marvin Redpost series, Sachar
Wayside Schools series, Sachar
Jake Drake series, Clements
Julian Series, Cameron
Swindle series, Korman
Shiloh series, Naylor
Who Was? series
I Survived series, Tarshis
Scraps of Time series, McKissack
Seeds of America series, Anderson
Ember series, DuPrau

Favorite Authors:

Bruce Coville
Clyde Robert Bulla
Beverly Cleary
Kate DiCamillo
Barbara O'Connor
Gordon Korman
Scott O'Dell
Peg Kehret
Gary Paulson
Michael Morpurgo
Louis Sachar
Andrew Clements
Russell Freedman
Elizabeth Winthrop
Rebecca Stead
Pam Munoz Ryan
Margaret Peterson Haddix



More Tips!



01 Read to:

Read favorite books aloud to your child!

Model reading:

- At a moderate speed,
- With good expression.

Stop to talk about the book 2-3 times per chapter.



SHOP Home Reading Kits

Each kit provides a high-interest book and parent-friendly directions for reading a book with your child at home!

SHOP Book Bags

Each bag comes with 3 books by a favorite author.

02 Read with:

1. Hold the book between you and your child.
2. Point to the words as you read together.
3. Read with both voices sounding like one voice.
4. The adult reader sets the pace.
5. Stop to talk about the book 2-3 times per chapter.



Watch this short video demonstration!



03 Talk & Write



Talking and writing are important for building reading skill!

Talking and writing:

- Improves attention,
- Deepens comprehension, and
- Strengthens memory.

SHOP Book Reports

Book reports are a great tool for supporting writing about reading at home! Students will use the CIA approach to read and think about the book!

Thank you families for supporting reading at home!

If you have any specific questions about how to help your student, please reach out to your classroom teacher!

To shop for products, use the QR code.

Happy reading!

SHOP NOW!

