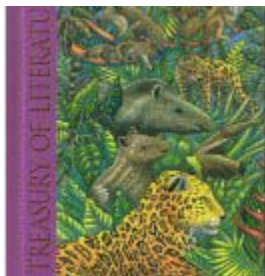




READING OVERVIEW

Our reading block consists of four main components. Throughout the school year, your child will spend time in basal reading experiences, guided reading groups, literature circles/book clubs, and independent reading.



BASAL READER

Our Basal Reader is titled Emerald Forest published by Harcourt Brace. The interesting stories are chosen to illustrate and develop specific reading skills.

This is a balanced reading program that will focus on comprehension, vocabulary, and word attack strategies within fiction and nonfiction materials.



GUIDED READING

During guided reading, your child will work in small groups reading books at their *instructional* level. You will most likely see less formalized guided reading in fourth grade than you have seen in the past. This is also a time where I will work with small flexible groups on various comprehension and reading concepts and strategies.



LITERATURE CIRCLE / BOOK CLUB

Students work in small groups reading, discussing and responding to books. Students use questioning and reading strategies to help guide their small group discussion.



INDEPENDENT READING

The Independent Reading element of our reading program is where students are reading “*on their own level*” from a variety of books. The self selected books give the student a chance to apply the reading skills learned during instruction about comprehending text. A reading response journal or log is required at the end of the book. Other times students will share summaries with the class. This will allow me to monitor their progress.

Additional components within our balanced literacy approach:



Current Events - Current events will also be discussed throughout the week. We will use Weekly Readers Magazines to practice reading informational articles.



Read Aloud – Read Alouds are considered an interactive part of our reading experience. I will select a book to read and students will track their thinking, questioning, and discoveries in a notebook. This will not only be an opportunity for me to model fluent reading, but also for us to discuss our understanding and questioning as readers. Read Alouds also encourage prediction, develop active listening, and builds a community of readers.