

## Why this approach?

Building a Community of Readers and Writers: Literacy Instruction in Ms. Bailey's Class

### Resources

For more information about this approach to literacy instruction the following resources are available.

Reading with Meaning by Debbie Miller.

Guided Reading: Good First Teaching for All Children by Irene Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell

Guiding Readers and Writers (Grades 3-6): Teaching Comprehension, Genre, and Content Literacy by Irene Fountas and Gay Su Pinnell

Words Their Way: Word Study for Phonics, Vocabulary, and Spelling Instruction by Donald R. Bear

- ❖ Engaging and meaningful opportunities for students to achieve success and a love for learning are available through a supportive classroom community that fosters collaboration, accountability, and independence.
- ❖ Students have the opportunity to participate in differentiated, assessment driven instruction.
- ❖ Instruction in other content areas can be linked to reading instruction throughout the day.

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## Welcome

Welcome to third grade. I am thrilled to be able to work with your child and family this year.

Reading has always been a passion of mine. From an early age I remember being drawn to books and spending countless hours reading. It is a love for reading that I want to develop in the young children I work with each day.

The following is a description of the Language and Literacy program that will be implemented in my classroom reading program this year.



## Goals for the School Year

- To foster a learning environment which focuses on cooperation and respect for others.
- To individualize educational approaches in order to meet your child's needs.
- To become a community of learners who communicate compassionately.

## Writer's Workshop

Through Writer's Workshop students will practice writing daily. Students will develop short stories, narratives, reports, and poetry. Through Writer's Workshop the writing process will be emphasized including pre-writing, writing, editing, revision and publishing. Stay tuned for more information about our writing celebrations.

## Reading Program Components

### 1. Whole Class Comprehension Instruction

Students will learn and practice the reading strategies and comprehension skills necessary to become lifelong readers.

### 2. Individual Reading Conferences

Students meet with me for ongoing assessment and strategy instruction.

### 3. Guided Reading Groups

Flexible groups are formed according to specific needs to teach skills and strategies. Students will be assessed throughout the school year to assure individual needs are being met in Guided Reading groups.

### 4. Literature Response Groups

Students engage in conversations about novels of interest in small groups. Students initiate genuine, self-sustaining book discussions based upon students reading interests.

### 5. Daily Read Aloud

A variety of genres will be read to the children to expand their reading focus.

### 6. Shared Reading

Whole class reading where everyone is reading and discussing the same selection. Poetry is often used to build fluency.

### 7. Independent Reading

Students will self-select quality literature and magazines for pleasure reading and to apply the skills and strategies being taught.

### 8. Word Study

Students will be assessed early in the school year and placed into flexible small word study groups designed to expand student's current spelling and word study knowledge.