



Our Classroom Literacy Practice

by Aaron Craig

GOOD READERS AND WRITERS, READ AND WRITE
EVERYDAY!!!!!!



The Daily Five is a structured program that helps to daily build up the necessary literacy skills and stamina in the students by practicing five basic skills daily. So far we have been introducing each one starting with **Read to Self** and building the others on top, by the end of this month we will be doing all in rotating groups.

Reading to self – by reading everyday with good fit books students gain proficiency in their reading skills.

· **Working on Writing** – by using self-selected topics and genres that the students are passionate about daily writing practice helps to make students proficient writers.

· **Partner Reading** – Students practice reading with a partner to improve fluency, check for understanding, and hear their own voice. Sharing with others builds up a community of learning.

· **Word Work** – the students work with their spelling and expanding their vocabulary, this

helps increase their fluency and their comprehension.

· **Listen to Reading** – Hearing other's fluent and expressive reading helps to expand students' vocabulary and to build up stamina making the student a better reader.

At the beginning of the class the teacher will have a mini lesson with the whole class and then the class will break out into the five different centers. While students are rotating through these different centers, the teacher is conferencing with different students to create individual goals, and using the CAFÉ system each student will touch basis with the teacher once a week.



CAFÉ is a system that helps the teacher assess, understand, synthesize, and transfer data for instruction into a notebook

- **Comprehension** – “I understand what I read.”
- **Accuracy** – “I can read the words.”
- **Fluency** – “I can read accurately, with expression, and understand what I read.”
- **Expand Vocabulary** – “I know, find, and use interesting words.”

During these sessions, the teacher will confer with individual students to assess strengths and greatest areas of need, deciding and implementing a strategy or two for the student to use over the next few weeks. The teacher and student will set goals, discussing immediately, celebrating and sharing strengths, and communicating areas that need work. These goals are written for

both the student and the teacher to revisit in later conferences. This formative assessment helps the teacher to develop future lessons for the students, and make up individual strategies for each students' needs.

Overall, the programs allow the students to constantly work on their literacy skills, work specifically on their weaker areas with focused strategies, and celebrate their strengths. For the teacher, this is a great way to individualize learning and tailor a student's literacy.

Mr. Craig's Class Monthly Newsletter October Issue



Hands on learning in STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, & Math)

Important Dates in October:

October 4- 17 FCC Food Drive

October 5 - Thanksgiving Prayer Service 8:45

October 8 - Thanksgiving Day - No School

October 15 - School Council at 3:30

October 18 & 19 - PD Day - No School for students

October 23 - Feel the Pulse Student Retreat

October 26 - September Scholastic Club Forms due

October 31 - Halloween Parade at 1:30 room party to follow



Orange Shirt Day - Every Child Matters!!



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Bright Light Winners for September