

Program Overview

Instruction

Students will receive additional reading instruction in small groups with the Reading Specialist.

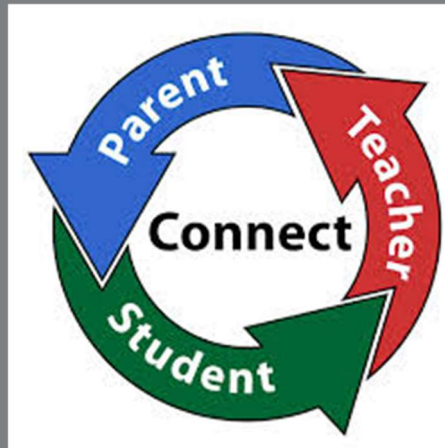
Students will be reading, discussing, and writing about appropriate leveled texts. Lessons could incorporate the following components: comprehension, fluency, word work, and writing about reading. The students will have the opportunity to interact with all types of literature.

The Reading Specialists will work collaboratively with the classroom teachers to develop specific literacy skills.

*"There are many little ways to enlarge your child's world. Love of books is the best of all."
-Jacqueline Kennedy*

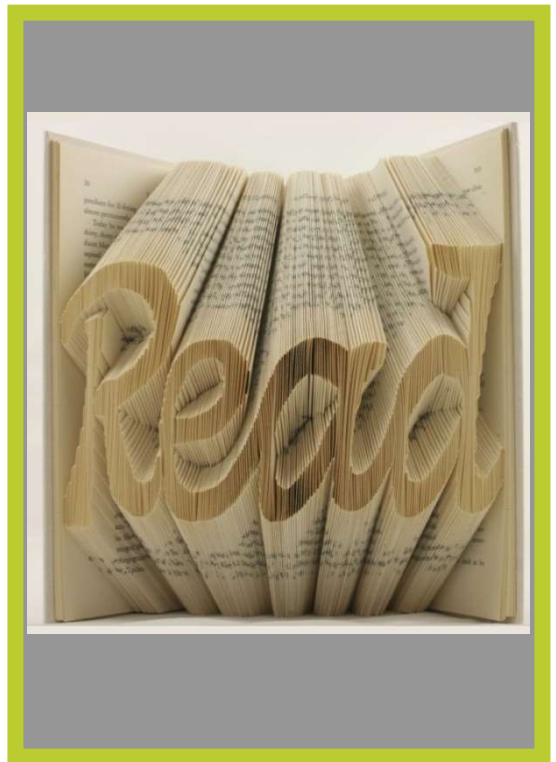
Communication

*"Alone we can do so little.
Together we can do so much."
-Helen Keller*



Please feel free to contact me with any questions or comments you may have:

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Reading Specialist Program

Grades 3 - 5

Harrison Elementary School
148 N. Livingston
Livingston, NJ 07039

Mrs. Stacy Nigro
Reading Specialist

Just Right Books



How can you choose a just right book?

You can use the following guide to determine if a book is “just right”.

Ask the following questions:

- **INTEREST:** Am I interested in learning about this character or topic?
- **WORDS:** Can I read almost ALL the words correctly?
- **VOICE:** Does my reading sound like talking?
- **TALK:** Can I talk about what I read? Can I talk about what I think?

I KNOW my book is “just right” if I can answer yes, yes, yes and yes!

Children should be reading a variety of genres which can include:

fiction, historical fiction, science fiction, poetry, fantasy, non-fiction, graphic novels, biography

What Can I Do At Home To Help?

Talking to your child about what he/she is reading sends a signal that reading is important. Here are some questions you can ask:

Fiction

- What’s the problem in the story? How was it solved?
- How is the character feeling & reacting? What are they learning? Did the character change?
- What picture(s) are you making in your mind?
- What does this remind you of – in your life, in other books, in the world?

Nonfiction

- What is this part mostly about?
- What question(s) do you have for the author?
- Of the facts you learned, which one would you share with someone?
- What does this remind you of – in your life, in other books, in the world?

Why Read 20 Minutes a Night?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)

Reading 20 Minutes Per Day	Reading 5 Minutes Per Day	Reading 1 Minute Per Day
1.8 million words per year	282,000 words per year	8,000 words per year
Score in the 90th percentile of standardized tests	Score in the 50th percentile of standardized tests	Score in the 10th percentile of standardized tests

“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you’ll go.”

-Dr. Seuss

Roles of a Reading Specialist

Instruction

The reading specialist supports, supplements, and extends classroom teaching and works collaboratively to implement quality reading instruction that is research based and meets the needs of students.

Assessment

The reading specialist has specialized knowledge of assessment and diagnosis that is vital for developing, implementing, and designing instruction for individual students. He or she can assess the reading strengths and needs of students and provide that information to classroom teachers, parents, and specialized personnel in order to provide an effective reading program.

Leadership

The reading specialist provides leadership as a resource to other educators, parents, and the community.

-International Literacy Association