

THE BALANCED READER

Do you remember as a child when you learned to read? Most of us probably don't, but now you can't imagine life without being able to. As our children grow it is vital that we are part of their journey. As they grow, we will need to assist them in developing strong reading skills. As I am sure you will all go through the struggles of getting your kids to read to you each night, remember that reading expands our kids vocabulary, it will make them better readers, their imaginations are enhanced, writing skills dramatically improve and of course everyone knows that a good book can be a fun experience for the reader and the parent.

Today just as everything else is evolving and improving so rapidly so is the best practise for reading. For our kids to be the best readers they can be, we are focusing on the importance of the "balanced reader". To be a balanced reader there are three areas that we are focusing on at school, which are decoding, fluency and phrasing and comprehension.



Decoding- Students need to understand the sounds found in words and be able to put those sounds back together to form words and sentences.

Fluency and Phrasing- students ability to "read like you talk" using punctuation and the ability to break text into meaningful sentences.

Comprehension- A balanced reader can not only read, but comprehend what is happening in the story. They are then able to answer questions about what they have read.