



# How is Reading and Writing Taught Today?

How Can I Help My Child Become a Lifelong Reader and Writer?

# Agenda

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1. What is involved in the process of learning how to read and write?
  2. How do teachers teach reading and writing?
  3. How can you help your child become a better reader and writer? 

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  4. Break-out sessions
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**Read Aloud**  
***It's A Book***  
***By Lane Smith***

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# Conditions that foster reading and writing:

- Expectations
- Allowing mistakes
- Providing feedback
- Practice
- Choice

# What is involved in the process of learning to read?

- Comprehension: within the text, about the story and beyond the story
- Fluency: expression, phrasing, rate and accuracy
- Vocabulary
- Engagement: learning to love reading and writing

# What is involved in the process of learning to write?

- Generating Ideas
- Organization of their thinking
- Clear and concise choice of words and sentence arrangement
- Writing for a variety of purposes and audiences
- Mechanics (spelling/grammar, etc.)

# How do teachers teach reading and writing?

- Workshop Model
  - Mini-lesson (direct instruction with guided practice)
  - Independent Practice
  - Share

# A peek inside the classroom

- Video of grade 3 reading lesson
- Video of grade 5 writing lesson



# How can you help your child improve as a writer?

- Let your children see you write often and ask their opinion of what you've said
- Talk through their ideas with them
- Help them organize their thoughts prior to writing
- Encourage them to use the tools/strategies they are learning in school in regard to spelling and grammar

# How can you help your child improve as a reader?

Research Shows:

- Sheer volume of reading was a distinguishing feature of high achieving classrooms (Allington 2006)
  - If we want children to read a lot we must find texts for them that are ACCESSIBLE and ENGAGE them
  - If we want children to improve their vocabulary and reading fluency, we must get them to log many hours of printed pages.
  - The act of reading (EASY TEXT) itself serves to increase the achievement differences among children.

# Why can't I skip my reading homework tonight?

- Student **A** reads 20 minutes each day, 3,600 minutes in a school year.
- Student **B** reads 5 minutes each day, 900 minutes in a school year.
- Student **C** reads 1 minute each day, 180 minutes in a school year.
- BY THE END OF 6th grade...Student A will have read an equivalent of 60 school days and Student B will have read an equivalent of 12 school days. Student C will have read an equivalent of 3 school days. Who do you expect to have a better vocabulary? Expect to be more successful in school?

# My child says she is a level...what does that mean?

So how do I know if a book is “Just Right?”

- Your child:
  - can read most of the words with few errors
  - can read with appropriate fluency, not choppy or word by word
  - understands the meaning of the text but will still have questions/things to talk about
  - Is comfortable with the book/chapter length and font size
  - is interested in the topic, has read another book in the series, familiar with genre
- If the book is too hard, it can be read aloud to your child

# Implications for parents...

- We all need to FIND QUALITY TIME to read to our kids as well as give them time to read
- Our children need to be matched to appropriate texts

# Parent Resources

- District website
- The Pelham Library
- Suggestions from your child's teacher
- Julie Liebersohn - [jliebersohn@pelhamschools.org](mailto:jliebersohn@pelhamschools.org)  
x1707
- Maria Thompson - [mthompson@pelhamschools.org](mailto:mthompson@pelhamschools.org)  
x1108

Find ELA updates and program resources, including parent specific curriculum guides, on the **K-5 ELA** page under the district Teaching and Learning heading, then Academic Program K-12.



# Q/A

## Break-Out Sessions to Learn More (3-5)

- How to help your child write about their reading. (Ms. Gerhardt Room 203)
- How to talk to your kids about the book they are reading (Ms. Sider Room 206)
- What makes a book challenging for a reader? (Ms. Reynolds Room 202)

3 Break-Out sessions: Rooms 202, 203, and 206



Thank you for attending

