

How is Reading and Writing Taught Today?

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

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Agenda

- What is involved in the process of learning how to read and write?
- What conditions foster literacy?
- How do teachers teach reading and writing?
- Lesson Demonstrations
- How can you help your child improve as a reader and writer?
- Parent Resources
- Questions & Answers

What is involved in the process of learning to read?

Learning to read involves:

Word Recognition

- **Alphabetic principle:**
words are made up of letters, these letters represent sounds
- **Phonemic Awareness:**
the ability to hear and manipulate the different sounds in words
- **Phonics:**
an instructional method that involves matching letters to their sounds to decode words



Language Comprehension

- Inferencing
- Background knowledge
- Text structure
- Vocabulary



Reading Comprehension

Pelham's curriculum is grounded in research

What is involved in the process of learning to write?

- Generate Ideas
- Oral Rehearsal, Sketch (Plan)
- Draft - Revise - Edit
- Publish & Celebrate!



What conditions foster literacy?

- Print-rich environment
- Practice
- Mistakes
- Feedback
- Choice

“After all, orthographic exposure that creates opportunities for self-teaching (Share 1995, 1999, 2004) is what strengthens children’s neural pathways, making reading feel less like riding on a bumpy dirt road and more like zipping along a sophisticated superhighway.”
Burkins & Yates 2021

How do teachers teach reading and writing?

Reading and Writing Workshops

GOALS:

- Create confident, engaged, lifelong readers and writers
- Focus on literacy strategies, differentiated for each learner, and guided by student data
- Engage in units of study aligned to the Next Gen ELA Standards
- Build endurance, volume in a variety of genres
- Provide Frequent feedback
- Work with partners and self-assess

ELEMENTS OF WORKSHOP:

- **Mini Lesson:** direct, whole class instruction with a focus on skills /strategies modeled by the teacher
- **Work Time/Conferring:** students practice strategy/skill from the mini lesson while the teacher works with individuals or small groups
- **Wrap Up/Share:** students reflect/share learning with partners or as a group



ADDITIONAL LITERACY ACTIVITIES:

- Word Study
- Read Aloud
- Shared and Interactive Reading/Writing

Lesson Demonstrations:

1. Kindergarten

- Phonemic awareness lesson from Heggerty

2. First Grade

- Phonics lesson from Foundations

3. Second grade

- Mini-lesson from Reading Workshop from
TCRWP

How can you help your child improve as a reader?

Routines to Support Problem Solving Words:

1. Practice patience
2. Touch the text
3. Look before you leap
4. Make the leap
5. Reread to cross-check
6. Take a closer look



Why can't I skip my reading homework tonight?

Student A	Student B	Student C
Reads 20 minutes per day	Reads 5 minutes per day	Reads 1 minute per day
3600 minutes per school year	900 minutes per school year	180 minutes per school year
1,800,000 words	282,000 words	8,000 words
10 whole school days of reading	2 whole school days of reading	
By the end of 6 th grade-60 whole school days of reading	By the end of 6 th grade-12 whole school days reading	

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, is familiar with genre.

If the book is too hard, it can be read aloud to your child.

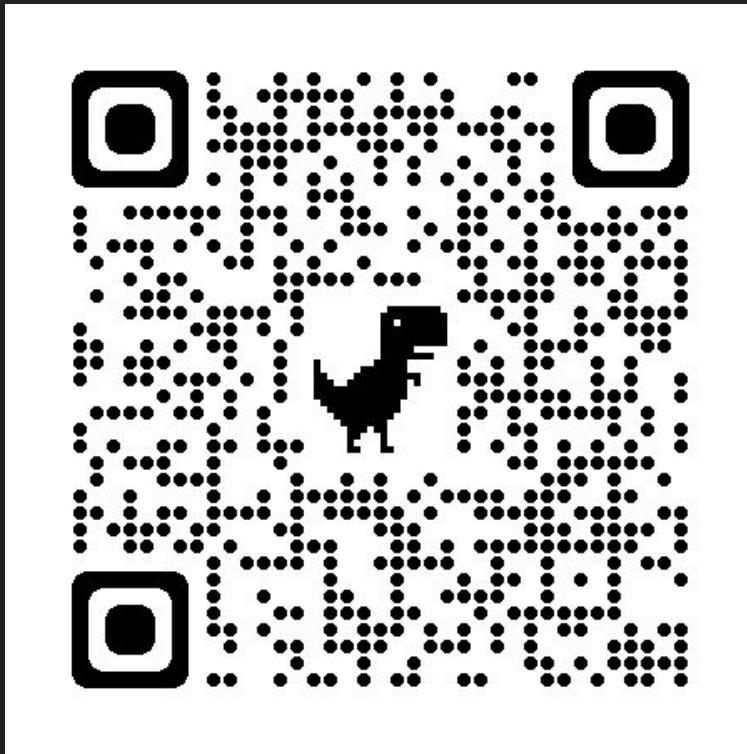
How can you help your child improve as a writer?

- Let your child see you write!
- Invite them to tell you what they want to write (oral rehearsal.)
- Ask them to read to you what they wrote and celebrate what they did do!
- If providing feedback, it should be ONLY ONE specific tip and something that can help them repeatedly.
- Encourage them to use the tools/strategies they are learning in school.

Parent Resources

- District website:
 - **TEACHING & LEARNING > Academic Program K-12 > K-5 Program**
- The Pelham Library
- Suggestions from your child's teacher
- Literacy Staff Developer K-5: Kate Alix
kalix@pelhamschools.org x1707
- Director of Humanities K-12: Maria Thompson
mthompson@pelhamschools.org x1108

Additional Parent Resources

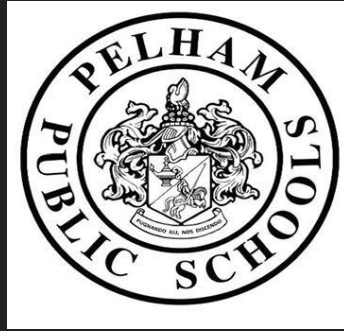


How to scan the QR Code:

1. Open the camera app.
2. Select the rear-facing camera in Photo mode.
3. Center the QR code you want to scan on the screen and hold your phone steady for a couple of seconds.
4. Tap the notification that pops up to open the link. (You will need to be connected to the internet to do this.)

Handouts: Two Articles from *Reading Rockets*

1. [Simple Yet Powerful Things To Do While Reading Aloud](#)
2. [Building Your Child's Vocabulary](#)



Thank you for attending!

Questions & Answers