



Title I News

The Title I staff is excited to be visiting kindergarten, first, second, and third grades this year. Mrs. Noble and Mrs. Little will be working with small groups of children during guided reading time. They will also see students in small groups and one-on-one to work on reading skills. In Guided Reading, students are put in small reading groups based on reading abilities and are taught skills and strategies to help accelerate their reading skills. Eight to ten first grade students will also receive Reading Rescue, formerly known as Reading Recovery®, this year. Reading Rescue is a pullout program designed to equip children with the necessary strategies to make them better readers and writers.

At the beginning of the school year, our first grade students were given three Reading Recovery® tests to assess which children were in need of additional help. The first test was a writing vocabulary test that showed how many words each child could write correctly. The second test was a dictation test. Two sentences were read aloud to the students, who then wrote the sentences to the best of their ability. This test was not graded on the number of words spelled correctly, but on the number of correct sounds the child has written. The final test checked to see at what level they were currently reading.

Reading Rescue uses more extensive testing than is used for the choosing of first grade Title I students. Children tested for Reading Rescue are given three additional tests. They assess letter and word identification as well as concepts about print. Second and third grade students are chosen using the Terra Nova test, recommendation from classroom teachers, and Individualized Reading Inventories (IRI's). The IRI checks to see if a student is reading on grade level.

Several weeks into the school year, all kindergarten students were given four tests. The first was a listening comprehension test to assess their ability to understand stories read to them. The second was called "Concepts About Print." This test checks a student's knowledge of books and print. The third test was a letter identification test that shows what letters the students can identify and the last test was a Phonemic Awareness test. This test shows the student's ability to rhyme and identify syllables in words.

We hope this information on selection gives you a better understanding of our Title I curriculum and assessments.

If you have any questions, feel free to contact Tracey Noble at 267-7140.