

## How to Help Your Child at Home

Be a good model of reading. Let your child see you reading, and show that you think reading is important.

Read with your child every day. Read aloud to your child and have him or her read aloud to you.

Talk to your child about what he or she is reading. Define unknown words. Ask literal questions in which the answer can be found right on the page (What is the setting of this story?) and inferential questions in which your child has to use what is written on the page plus his background knowledge in order to come to an answer (How did the main character change from the beginning to the end of the story?).

Most importantly...have your child read, read, read! The more we read, the better readers we become.



## How Will My Child Be Assessed?

- Reading workshop assessment is ongoing.
- The teacher will closely monitor your child's progress through notes and running records taken during conferencing and small group work.
- Rubrics will be used to assess your student's fluency, comprehension, written response, and participation in workshop.
- Expect to see fewer worksheets coming home as this model provides authentic reading and writing opportunities.



## A PARENT'S GUIDE TO READING WORKSHOP

*"Tis the good reader that makes  
a good book." -Emerson*



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## What is Reading Workshop?

Reading workshop is a structure used in the teaching of reading, one that is designed to give students the essentials they need to flourish as readers. Teachers model reading behaviors and provide explicit instruction on reading strategies and skills. Students are given time to read, an opportunity to choose their reading selections, and time to talk about books and strategies.

### Reading Workshop Schedule 60 Minute Block:

Mini Lesson	10-15 Minutes
Work Time	20-40 Minutes
Sharing	5-10 Minutes

### Kindergarten Reading Schedule 60 Minute Block:

Mini Lesson	10-15 Minutes
Work Time	10-20 Minutes
Sharing	5-10 Minutes

**The remaining 30 minutes are for Literacy Centers and small group instruction.**

## Components of Reading Workshop

### Mini Lesson:

The teacher teaches a whole class lesson on a reading strategy or skill based on the needs of the students. Picture and chapter books are read as the teacher thinks aloud and demonstrates the skill.

### Independent Work Time:

**Student:** Students are reading self-selected 'just right books' as they practice what they were just taught in the mini lesson. They are responding to what they read in a reader's notebook. They may participate in book clubs to read and talk about books with a group of students

**The Teacher:** The teacher is conferencing with students about what they are reading. He or she is providing instruction in small guided reading and strategy groups.

### Sharing Time:

Students share what they read and how they applied the day's mini lesson. This may be done as a whole class or in small groups. Written responses and book recommendations are shared as well.

## Reading Workshop Vocabulary

- **Comprehension**-Understanding what is read.
- **Fluency** -The ability to read accurately at a moderate pace with expression and phrasing.
- **Fiction** –Literature created from the imagination.
- **Nonfiction** –Literature based in fact.
- **Genre** –Types and kinds of literature (examples: fantasy, historical fiction, realistic fiction, biography, poetry, summaries, instructions, information).
- **Reading Stamina** -The ability to slowly increase the amount of time spent focusing on reading.
- **Craft and Structure**-How word choices shape meaning and tone; how texts are organized

