

Unit 1 Newsletter

Launching into Literacy

The Focus in Reading

In our first unit the focus will be on launching reader's workshop. We will learn routines to set the stage for guided and independent practice. Students will learn an array of foundational reading and language skills through poetry, nursery rhymes, songs and appropriate level texts.

Student will learn how to:

- *Distinguish between informational and fiction text*
- *Identify words and phrases that suggest feelings and appeal to the senses*
- *Read poetry with fluency*
- *Become active participants and engaged listeners*

How can you help your child?

Read with and to your child on a daily basis. Build routines to support your child as a learner. Enjoy literature!

Building routines may include:

- *Selecting a homework spot/space*
- *Selecting a homework time*
- *Reading together*
- *Helping your child organize and become responsible for their belongings*

The Focus in Writing

The focus will be on launching writer's workshop. We will learn routines to set the stage for guided and independent practice. Students will learn that a personal narrative is a story about themselves! This is just like the stories they read only it is a true story about themselves instead of a fictional story.

Students will learn how to:

- *Write a detailed beginning statement in their writing that includes the setting (time and place)*
- *Add details to their writing to engage the reader*
- *Become active participants and engaged listeners*

How Can You Help?

As part of your home routine ask your child about their day. Ask them to identify their favorite part of the day and be sure to focus on the setting (time and place).

Wrap up!

At the end of a unit students will be assessed (given a CEPA- Curriculum Embedded Performance Assessment). They will be asked to complete a personal narrative.