

Mrs. Ringrose's Subject Areas

I. Reading

A. Guided Reading (test grades – end of story/novels)

Taught at instructional reading level 3-1 and 3-2

1. SRA Open Court basal
2. Literature supplements: “Passports”, Sparkling Colors, and HBJ series
3. Novels – Best Christmas Pageant Ever, Stone Fox, 26 Fairmont Drive, How to Eat Fried Worms
4. Various library books

B. Read-Alouds

These books are at a listening level 4-1 and higher.

1. Novels – Class Clown, Trumpet of the Swans
2. Various library books – Focus on Bluebonnet and other award-winning books. **(ungraded)**

C. Independent reading

These books should be at the child's independent level determined by past testing or the simple five finger method.

1. USSR – Uninterrupted Silent Sustained Reading
2. AR Reading homework – 20 min. M-Th
3. Accelerated Reading Program – library books with computerized tests, self-selection, competitive, required but ungraded reading, point requirement each nine weeks **(ungraded)**

D. Vocabulary & Skills

These are interwoven into all types of reading.

1. A.M. Work, TAKS formatted **(daily grade/test grade)**
2. Word-A-Day – vocabulary list **(test grade)**
3. Science Word – school-wide vocabulary list **(ungraded)**
4. Wordly Wise – vocabulary workbook **(daily grade)**

III. Social Studies – Communities

1. Textbook **(daily grade – workbook pp.) (test grades- chapter tests)**
2. Map and Globe skills-weekly map **(daily grade)**

Accelerated Reading – AR

What is it?

AR is computerized independent reading program that is available to all teachers and students. Students are given a test to determine a general range of reading ability. After reading a book they can go to any computer in the building and take the AR test for that book.

Components of AR

A computerized reading test called STAR - After reading several reading selections and answering questions about them, the student's reading range is determined.

Over 4,000 library books – Most library books are now labeled AR and ordered with the matching AR test. The label also shows the book's reading level and how many points the child will receive when the test is completed successfully. Our class library books are coded so students know if they are AR books. Also, a complete list of AR books can be found on the school website.

Computerized tests – Students can log in to the AR program and take a test over the book they have just completed. They are immediately shown their score and what questions they missed, if any.

Reports/Records – Parents will initially receive a report with the student's reading range and suggestions for home reading. Parent support and participation of this program is critical to the student's success. Students will periodically print out a report of the books they have tested over. This report reveals if the students are selecting books wisely and if they understand what they have read.

Incentives

Recognition – Every Friday we have a “Status of the Class” meeting to recognize achievement and progress.

Clubs – When students reach 10 points, 20 points, 40 points, and 60 points they can sign the club sign-in sheets and ring the wind chime.

Necklaces – If students have reached a new club they are awarded their star necklace during the “Status of the Class” meeting.

Reports – A list of all tests and scores will be sent home when a student joins a new club. Parents can participate by adding their own incentives.

Advantages

Accountability – This computerized reading system makes students accountable for reading they have done independently.

Book Selection – Students improve their book selections skills because they know the book’s reading level. They are encouraged not to pick books that are too easy and do not improve vocabulary skills. They are also encouraged not to choose books that may become frustrating.

Wide-Reading Approach - This system encourages this well-known method of reading instruction. It encourages a habit of daily reading. The competitive part of this system often encourages the reluctant reader. The insecure reader is encouraged because they improve their book selection skills and experience success when they test. The voracious reader is not limited by the requirements of this program as point requirements leave plenty of time for reading books that are not in the system.

Class Goals

10 point club by end of first reporting period – October 19th
20 point club by end of second reporting period – December 14^h
40 point club by end of third reporting period – March 8th
60 point club by May 10th

Missed Deadlines

1. Students will have to log in with the teacher twice daily with their book in hand and record page number.
2. Students will receive extra support with book selection.
3. Students will receive extra support with computer use of program.
4. Parents will have to sign reports weekly.
5. Students will receive lowered mark in study habits.
6. Students will receive homework cuts when they do not carry the book they currently reading back and forth to school for the log ins with the teacher.