What is Balanced Literacy?

Interactive
Read Aloud/Modeled Reading
• Demonstrates proficient reading
• Expands access to text beyond child’s abilities
• Exposes children to a variety of genres

Shared/Interactive Reading
• Models reading strategies
• Teaches reading strategies
• Extends understanding of the reading process
• Teacher and child share reading
• Teacher encourages child to read when able

Guided Reading
• Teacher reinforces skills
• Teacher engages child in questioning and discussion
• Teacher acts as a guide
• Child does the reading
• Child practices strategies
• Child builds independence

Independent Reading
• Child chooses the text
• Child practices at his or her independent level
• Time to practice
• Demonstrates the value of reading

Write Aloud/Modeled Writing
• Demonstrates proficient writing
• Expands access to writing beyond child’s abilities
• Exposes children to a variety of genres

Shared/Interactive Writing
• Models writing strategies
• Teaches writing strategies
• Extends understanding of the writing process
• Teacher and child share pen
• Teacher and child compose together

Guided Writing
• Teacher reinforces skills
• Teacher engages child in questioning and discussion
• Teacher acts as a guide
• Child does the writing
• Child practices strategies
• Child builds independence

Independent Writing
• Child chooses topic
• Child practices at his independent level
• Time to practice
• Demonstrates the value of writing

Word Work/Word Study
• Word Sorts to help students understand word structures, word meanings and how to spell words, and phonics