

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

Word Work/Word Study

- Word Sorts to help students understand word structures, word meanings and how to spell words, and phonics

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