



The Stages of Reading and Writing

Stages of Reading

Emergent Reader

- knows that the text goes from left to right
- can distinguish between lower case and upper case letters
- can blend phonemes
- uses picture for clues
- retells a simple story which is read to them
- recalls some details
- knows names of letters
- identifies consonant sounds at beginning and end of words
- understands the difference between letters and words
- notices and reads environmental print
- reads one word at a time-choppy
- selects simple repetitious books
- reads favorite books over and over
- silent sustained reading 5-10 minutes
- has the desire to be a fluent reader
- enjoys retelling stories make predictions and tells why

Early Reader

- sequences events in story
- tells main idea
- makes predictions
- identifies main characters
- identifies setting
- differentiates between fact and fiction
- identifies high frequency words
- some awareness of medial vowel sounds
- uses context clues
- begins to self correct
- understands the meaning of . ? !
- pauses and uses appropriate inflection for punctuation
- reads phrases
- selects a variety of books
- silent sustained reading 10-15 minutes
- begins to feel confident when reading silently or orally
- enjoys challenges
- selects reading during free time
- summarizes main events of a story

Fluent Reader

- recognizes plot of story
- recognizes problem and solution in a story
- evaluates character's actions or behaviors
- uses a variety of clues to decode unfamiliar words
- identifies blends, digraphs, diphthongs
- applies vowel rules to sound out words
- understands affixes
- uses punctuation correctly
- reads with expression
- reads smoothly
- selects a wide variety of books
- may select chapter books
- silent sustained reading for at least 20 minutes
- confident
- enjoys sharing favorite books

Stages of Writing

Emergent Writer

- draws a picture to tell a story
- understands that writing is communication in written form
- uses scribble writing and symbol writing
- uses left to right progression
- uses initial consonants
- uses spaces between words

Early Writer

- uses invented spelling
- uses initial and final consonants
- places vowels correctly in words
- uses many high-frequency words as they write
- creates a title for their story
- has a beginning, middle, and end in their story
- begins using dialogue
- uses capitals and periods
- begins using editing skills and identifies misspelled words
- uses environment as a resource for spelling correctly and writing ideas

Fluent Writer

- develops part of the story
- understands knowledge about topics
- runs topics throughout entire story
- adds details to story
- writes paragraphs
- uses word endings
- uses punctuation such as question mark, comma, exclamation point, and quotation marks
- initiates the editing process