

# How is Reading and Writing Taught Today?

How Can I Help My Child Become a Lifelong Reader and Writer?

#### Agenda

- 1. What is involved in the process of learning how to read and write?
- 2. How do teachers teach reading and writing?
- 3. How can you help your child become a better reader and writer?
- 4. Break-out sessions

# Read Aloud Wolf!

By Becky Bloom

# Conditions that foster reading and writing:

- Expectations
- Allowing mistakes
- Providing feedback
- Being immersed in a "print" environment
- Practice
- Choice

# What is involved in the process of learning to read?

- Fundamentals: concepts of print
- Comprehension: within the text, about the story and beyond the story
- Fluency: expression, phrasing, rate and accuracy
- Vocabulary
- Engagement: learning to love reading and writing

### What is involved in the process of learning to write?

- Generating Ideas
- Organization of their thinking
- Clear and concise choice of words and sentence arrangement
- Writing for a variety of purposes and audiences
- Mechanics (spelling/grammar, etc.)

# How do teachers teach reading and writing?

- Workshop Model
  - Mini-lesson (direct instruction with guided practice)
  - Independent Practice
  - Share

#### A peek inside the classroom

- Video of writing in kindergarten
- Video of small group reading instruction in grade 2

### How can you help your child improve as a writer?

- Let your children see you write often and ask their opinion of what you've said
- Talk through their ideas with them
- Help them organize their thoughts prior to writing
- Celebrate their approximations with spelling
- Encourage them to use the tools/strategies they are learning in school in regard to spelling and grammar

### How can you help your child improve as a reader?

#### Research Shows:

- Sheer volume of reading was a distinguishing feature of high achieving classrooms (Allington 2006)
  - If we want children to read a lot we must find texts for them that are ACCESSIBLE and ENGAGE them
  - If we want children to improve their vocabulary and reading fluency, we must get them to log many hours of printed pages.
  - The act of reading (EASY TEXT) itself serves to increase the achievement differences among children.

# Why can't I skip my reading homework tonight?

- Student A reads 20 minutes each day, 3,600 minutes in a school year.
- Student B reads 5 minutes each day, 900 minutes in a school year.
- Student C reads 1 minute each day, 180 minutes in a school year.
- BY THE END OF 6th grade...Student A will have read an equivalent of 60 school days and Student B will have read an equivalent of 12 school days. Student C will have read an equivalent of 3 school days. Who do you expect to have a better vocabulary? Expect to be more successful in school?

#### Best practices for nightly reading homework

- Sit side-by-side with your child
- Don't tell the words
- Move beyond, "sound it out"
- Reread for fluency
- Allow some mistakes to go uncorrected
- Allow your child to read the same book multiple times
- Keep reading to your child

#### My child says she is a level...what does that mean?

So how do I know if a book is "Just Right?"

- Your child:
  - can read most of the words with few errors
  - can read with appropriate fluency, not choppy or word by word
  - understands the meaning of the text but will still have questions/things to talk about
  - Is comfortable with the book/chapter length and font size
  - is interested in the topic, has read another book in the series, familiar with genre
- If the book is too hard, it can be read aloud to your child

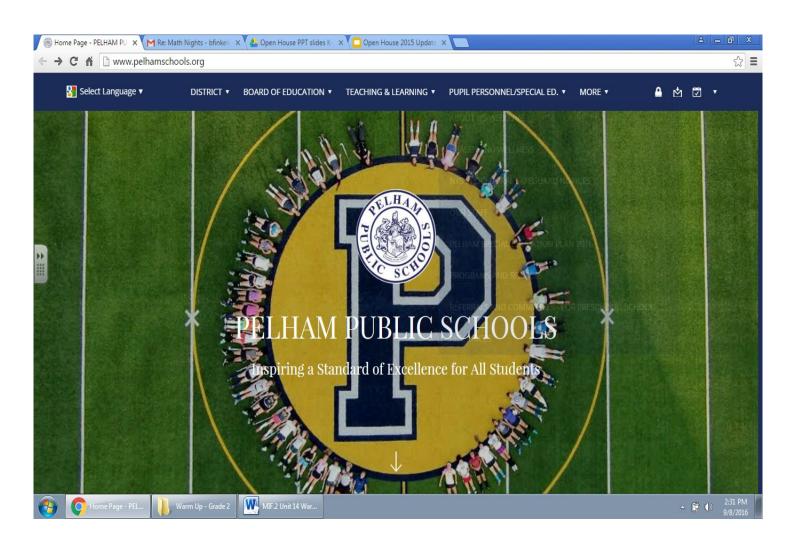
#### Implications for parents...

- We all need to FIND QUALITY TIME to read to our kids as well as give them time to read
- Our children need to be matched to appropriate texts

#### Parent Resources

- District website
- The Pelham Library
- Suggestions from your child's teacher
- Julie Liebersohn <u>iliebersohn@pelhamschools.org</u> x1707
- Maria Thompson <u>mthompson@pelhamschools.org</u> x1108

Find ELA updates and program resources, including parent specific curriculum guides, on the **K-5 ELA** page under the district Teaching and Learning heading, then Academic Program K-12.





#### Break-Out Sessions to Learn More (K-2)

- Previewing a Book with my child/getting them ready to read the book and sharing my thinking with them (Mrs. Stivala) Room 114
- How to help my child when they get stuck on an unknown word (Ms. Gallagher) Room 113
- Games for sight words and/or spelling (Ms. DeVico)
   Room 110

3 Break-Out sessions: Rooms 110, 113, and 114

#### Thank you for attending

