

## Reading and Language Arts at the Carrollton Campus

\*Think back to when you were your child's age. What did you enjoy reading?  
What do you remember about your reading and language arts classes in school?

Take a moment to write down the reading/language goals for your child.

Now how do we meet these goals? ("we" meaning students, teachers, & parents)

### What are the students and teachers doing at school?

- 4th-5th grades

#### Reading

1. Students go to designated reading groups daily (10:15-11:15 a.m.)
2. Reading teachers give reading grade (reading and vocabulary)
3. Students read out loud and silently.
4. Methods
  - a. Direct Instruction
    1. Fluency
    2. Phonics
    3. Reading practice and exposure to lot of words)
  - b. Open Court Reading Program (textbooks and workbooks)
    1. Vocabulary
    2. Comprehension
  - c. Novels (Number the Stars, Holes, Bridge to Terabithia)
    1. Meaningful and invested reading
    2. Questions and discussions
    3. "Out of the box thinking" and problem solving

#### Language

1. Homeroom teachers teach language (writing, grammar, and spelling)
  2. Journaling
  3. Writing topics/Essays
  4. Research
- Middle School (6<sup>th</sup>, 7<sup>th</sup>, 8<sup>th</sup> grades)

### Language Arts (Ms. Yolande)

1. Includes reading and language skills
2. Textbooks
3. Novels (The Watsons Go To Birmingham)
4. Research (Harlem Renaissance)
5. "He Who Reads Leads" bulletin board
6. Vocabulary words from novels on board

### What Can Parents Do At Home?

1. Read, Read, Read! (Make reading a daily routine)
  - o Read aloud to your child (choose a challenging book or article) (kids are never too old to be read to and they will also pick up on subtleties like pauses and reading with emotion)
  - o Ask your child to read to you (books should be on his/her level)
  - o Model reading in front of your child (newspaper, magazines, books)
  - o Schedule Family Reading Time (silent reading for older children)
2. Go to the library weekly. Make a day of the week Library Day!
3. Read recipes and cook with your child.
4. Ask your child questions before and while reading a book to help them think about reading. ("What do you think this story is about? What's happening in this picture? What do you think will happen next?")
5. Use a larger vocabulary when speaking to your child. (see listening article)
6. Play Books on Tape/CD in the car.
7. Put on the captions if and when your child watches TV and movies (this improves reading fluency).
8. Get an age-appropriate magazine subscription for your child.
9. Form your own Oprah Book Club (keep reading fun!)

*Students who regularly read out of school tend to score in the highest percentile on standardized tests.*