

Hello! I have met your children this past week, and have begun working with them to help improve their reading, their spelling, and their writing. I provide small group interventions to students who have skill gaps in language arts. I have enjoyed getting to know your children. We are off to a great start this year!

Here are some things we are working on now, and will continue to work on in November.

Fourth Graders

- Decoding, or "sounding out" words that are increasingly complicated. They are using their knowledge about letters and sounds to figure out new words. We break words into syllables to do this, and also use known words to decode new words.
- Reading through words completely, not just guessing at a word by using the beginning sounds.
- Checking to make sure the words decoded make sense in the text.
- Answering questions about what has been read. The kinds of questions will change as the year progresses. These are based on fourth grade reading standards.
- Writing about what has been read.

Third Graders

- Practicing letters and the sounds they make in isolation.
- Practicing letters and sounds in real text.
- Reading to understand the text. Checking to make sure the words decoded make sense in the text.
- Answering questions about what has been read. The kinds of questions will change as the year progresses. These are based on third grade reading standards.
- Learning to read question words that we often see on tests, in school assignments, etc., (i.e., determine, categorize, correct, apply).

If you are a student in one of my groups this year, I look forward to knowing you better as the year goes by. We are going to have a great time together, and I promise you will learn a lot!

Contact Information

ethomas@gcswave.com