

Literacy Minute

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READ
FOR INFORMATION
FOR KNOWLEDGE
FOR WISDOM
FOR FUN

Definition of Literacy: **lit-er-a-cy** [lĭttərəsee]

The ability to read and write: the ability to read and write to a competent level.
A skill in particular subject: knowledge of or competence in a subject or area of activity.

21st Century definition of literacy:
From the NCTE 2013

Literacy has always been a collection of cultural and communicative practices shared among members of particular groups. As society and technology change, so does literacy. Because technology has increased the intensity and complexity of literate environments, the 21st century demands that a literate person possess a wide range of abilities and competencies, many literacies. These literacies are multiple, dynamic, and malleable. As in the past, they are inextricably linked with particular histories, life possibilities, and social trajectories of individuals and groups. Active, successful participants in this 21st century global society must be able to



Develop proficiency and fluency with the tools of technology;

Build intentional cross-cultural connections and relationships with others so to pose and solve problems collaboratively and strengthen independent thought;

Design and share information for global communities to meet a variety of purposes

Manage, analyze, and synthesize multiple streams of simultaneous information;

Create, critique, analyze, and evaluate multimedia texts;

"Teaching reading IS rocket science."

— Louisa Moats

STAR TESTING

WHY?

You may be asking yourself why we are doing this. Beyond use as a Student Growth Measure the Star Test gives us some basic data about how and why our students may or may not be learning. Being a mediocre or poor reader will affect every aspect of a student's academic success and beyond. Today with the use of computer training in the workplace it is paramount to our students' success that they be proficient and competent readers. Students who do not read well risk being isolated and earning less than their peers who do read at a competent and proficient level. In the next few months we will be looking at student scores from the STAR testing. It might explain why that student who is a C/D student isn't performing well or can't pass that state test. The STAR Test will give us the data and some information that will help move our students on to a higher level of reading.

The Media Center website has a Literacy Resource link. If you would like something added please let me know

Literacy Resources

A bigger picture....

The next column is an explanation of the State of Ohio Third Grade reading initiative.

From the State of Ohio

Link to more about the [3rd grade initiative](#)

THIRD GRADE READING INITIATIVE

Ohio's Third Grade Guarantee ensures that every struggling reader gets the support he or she needs to be able to learn and achieve. Schools will work closely with parents to help create a remedy and for parents to be able to support the plan.

How it Works

In kindergarten through grade three, schools will evaluate all children to determine if they are reading as well as they should be. If a child appears to be falling behind in reading, school will immediately start a reading improvement plan. Reading Improvement Plan - This plan will address each student's unique reading problems. Schools will monitor the plan to make sure the student's reading is improving.

Advancing to Fourth Grade

Except for students with special circumstances, students must meet a minimum score on the state reading test to move on to the fourth grade. In 2013-2014, the minimum score for advancement is 392. This score must be attained either in the Fall or Spring administration of the state reading test.

If the student remains in the third grade, the school must provide a high-performing reading teacher and 90 minutes of reading instruction each school day.

A student can still take fourth grade classes in all other subjects, if the student is ready.

Schools can move students to the fourth grade in the middle of the year, if the student's reading improves.



Reading Hot Topics

READY FOR COLLEGE

We have DVD's in the Media Center if you need a refresher course. Ed Eblin put together a great cheat sheet listing all the techniques. He has included explanations for each of these. It is on the H drive.

- Anticipation Guides
- Previewing
- Two-Column Note Taking
- Cubing
- Fiction Prediction
- Non-Fiction Directed Reading/Thinking
- Focused Free Write
- Math Translation
- GIST
- Guided Reading
- Hunt for Main Ideas
- INSERT
- Interactive Cloze Reading
- Paired Reading
- PQR2ST+ Note-Taking
- PreP
- Extreme Paired Reading
- Sensible Sentence Highlighting Underlining
- Student-Generated Graphic Representation
- Think-Pair-Share
- Stump the Teacher/Student
- Three-Level Study Guides
- Pre/Post-Learning Concept Check

-DEFINITION OF COLLEGE READINESS

-Components in a Comprehensive Definition of College Readiness

-Transitioning Students with Disabilities to -- Higher Education: Attitude and Self-Advocacy

CONTENT AREA LITERACY

-Develop Fluency Using Content-Based Texts

-Previewing Texts in Content Classrooms

-Using Technology to Support Struggling Students:

Science Literacy, Vocabulary and Discourse

-Content-Area Literacy: Mathematics

Five Areas of Instructional Improvement to Increase Academic Literacy

From the email files:

- Ideas for implementing Literacy CCC in the non-ELA Classroom
- Using Excel to calculate students growth
- 10 Tips for Teaching Critical Thinking

"If you can read this, thank a teacher."

- Anonymous teacher