

Welcome to Title I Reading! Title I Reading's role in the building is to ensure that all students acquire the necessary skills to become a competent reader.

Research has shown that there are certain skills students must master early in order to become a good reader. Phonemic awareness is a major early reading skill. Phonemic Awareness includes rhyming, syllable clapping, identifying initial sounds, blending sounds into words, and segmenting or pulling apart the sounds that make up a word. Another skill is alphabetic principles, which includes recognizing letters, letter sound relationships and decoding three letter short vowel words. Concepts about print, recognizing the parts of a book (cover, title, pictures, text, words, etc), is another skill stressed. These are some of the skills that we will be working on with your child this year.

To help accomplish the goal of each child becoming a competent reader, the Title I Reading Specialist works with the kindergarten teacher throughout the school year in assessing the kindergarten students using the DIBELS test three times a year and providing extra reading support to those students who display a weakness in any of the areas tested. You will receive a report of your child's performance after each assessment (September, January, and May). After the September & January assessments, your Title I teacher will meet with small groups of children (two or three) at a time for 20 minutes who showed a significant weakness on the test. At times, the Title I teacher will work in the classroom with the regular teacher, and at other times, the children will work in the Title I reading room. During this time, we work on the early reading skills tested on DIBELS.

These lessons will involve reading books, singing songs, playing games, and drilling on various skills. It is also our goal to share with your children our love of reading and the belief that reading is fun!

If you ever have any questions concerning your child's reading development, please feel free to contact your building Title I Reading teacher. Contact information is posted on the Title I main page. We will also be available during Open House. We look forward to being a part of your child's journey to becoming a competent and avid reader.

P.S. Check out the great website: [www.starfall.com](http://www.starfall.com)