

## How to Help Your Child At Home

- Talk about books as a family
- Read with your child every day
- Ask your child to share with you what he or she is reading. Ask- What is the best part? Does the character remind you of anyone you know? Do you like this author's style, why?
- Make reading a priority. Young readers should reread old favorites, read the pictures and tell stories and nursery rhymes with you.
- Older readers can benefit from reading a series or many books by the same author. You can read the same book and discuss it with your child.
- Trust your child's teacher to match the reader with the right text for learning - the book is essential!



### *Words to Know:*

Comprehension: understanding what is read.

Fluency: Ability to read with accuracy and good pacing.

Stamina: The ability to slowly increase the amount of time-spent reading with focus and engagement.

Just Right Book: A book at an independent level that a child can read with understanding for practice of skills being taught.

Instructional Level: The text read with teacher guidance to assist the reader in advancing levels with direct teaching for skills and concepts.

Reading Log: A place to record book titles, pages read and time spent reading. Used to monitor and understand your child as a reader.

## A Parent's Guide to Reading Workshop



Regional School District #10  
Cheri Burke, Director of  
Student Learning  
[burkec@region10ct.org](mailto:burkec@region10ct.org)

# What is Reading Workshop?

Reading Workshop is a model of instruction that focuses on the work of the reader. Teachers model and teach directly the skills and strategies that proficient readers use. Students are taught that these strategies can be applied to many types of reading and therefore, students have the opportunity to self select books and read a wide variety of text. Daily, students engage in a mini-lesson, small group instruction, conferring and independent reading. A child also has ample opportunities to discuss and write about their reading. In Regional School District #10 we are employing the Teacher's College approach to Reading Workshop. To learn more visit

[www.readingandwritingproject.com](http://www.readingandwritingproject.com)

## Components of Reading Workshop:

**Mini Lesson:** A whole group lesson that follows a prescribed curriculum and targets one skill or standard appropriate for the grade level. The teacher models and provides examples with read aloud or shared text.

**Independent Reading:** Students practice skills with self-selected "just right" text. This is an opportunity for building stamina, reading with focus and engagement, and skill building. During this time, students may read alone and/or with a partner. The child will write in response to their reading and **conference** with the reader.

**Small Group Instruction:** The teacher will pull a small group of students to work at their instructional level to guide their reading and teach skills needed to advance to the next reading level and deepen comprehension.

**Share:** Students have opportunity to share and discuss their reading with other students to deepen comprehension and apply what has been learned. Teachers will also share to emphasize skills and strategies that proficient readers use.



### Why Workshop?

- Teachers with real literature Student centered approach
- Teaches students at individual level to allow for differentiation
- Teachers model the work of real readers so skills transfer to other texts and contexts for learning
- Students have choice and therefore are more engaged

