Balanced Literacy

What is it?
Balanced Literacy

- A comprehensive, differentiated approach to reading and writing instruction.
- A framework designed to help all students learn to read and write effectively.
- More efficient use of time
- Program has 3 components

READING, WRITING & LANGUAGE/WORD STUDY
Primary Classroom

Reading
• Read Aloud
• Shared Reading
• Guided Reading
• Literacy Centers

Writing
• Shared Writing
• Interactive Writing
• Guided Writing
• Independent Writing

Language/Word Study
Handwriting
Phonemic Awareness
Phonics Instruction
Spelling Instruction
Vocabulary Instruction
Reading
• Independent Reading
• Guided Reading
• Literature Circles

Writing
• Independent Writing
• Guided Writing
• Investigations

Language/Word Study
Spelling Instruction
Vocabulary Instruction
Read Aloud

Current Events
Handwriting
Shared Reading & Writing
Read Aloud

Teacher reads selections aloud to students
Shared Reading

Teacher & students read text together
Students are taught rules, expectations and tasks for participation in each center.
• Students grouped heterogeneously.
• Consistent icons for centers.
• Flexible way of rotating tasks.
## Possible Literacy Centers

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Browsing Boxes</th>
<th>Art Center</th>
<th>Independent Reading</th>
<th>Buddy Reading</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>ABC Center</td>
<td>Computers</td>
<td>Drama</td>
<td>Overhead Projector</td>
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<tr>
<td>Listening Center</td>
<td>Reading The Room</td>
<td>Poetry Center</td>
<td>Games</td>
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</tbody>
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Independent Reading

Students read appropriate self-selected books independently
Guided Reading

Teacher works with small, flexible groups of children who have similar reading strengths & needs.
Literature Circles

Students gather together to discuss a piece of literature in depth
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Organization</th>
<th>Primary</th>
<th>Intermediate</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Read Aloud</td>
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<tr>
<td>Shared Reading</td>
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<td>Literature Circles</td>
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Shared Writing

Teacher & students collaborate to write text; teacher acts as a scribe
Interactive Writing

Teacher & students compose text together sharing the pen.
Independent Writing

Students write independently
Guided Writing

Teacher works with a group of students with similar strengths & needs
Investigative Writing

Teacher provides guidelines, a structure & a timeline for projects while students research a topic.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
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<tr>
<td>Shared Writing</td>
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<td>Investigative Writing</td>
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<td>✓</td>
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Teacher provides instruction on developing word knowledge.
Components of Language/Word Study

• Phonemic Awareness
• Phonics Instructions
• Vocabulary Instruction
• Spelling Instruction
• Handwriting
Components of Language/Word Study

• Interactive Edit
• Interactive vocabulary
• Handwriting minilessons
• Test Reading/Writing
• Current Events
• Modeled or Shared Reading/Writing
• Readers’ Theater
• Choral Reading
• Poetry Share
• Word Study
• Interactive Read Aloud