



## Book in a Bag Homework

December 1, 2010

Dear Parents,

Starting today, your child will be bringing a book home each night to read to/with you. Each child has been given a ziploc bag, an index card, a "pointer" and their first book to read. Please record the name of the book on your child's index card each night and keep in the bag.

Listed below are a few things you can do while reading to help your emergent reader.

- Encourage your child to use his/her finger or the pointer to track or point to the words while reading.
- Ask your child to look at the book cover and make a prediction about the story.
- Encourage your child to continue to make predictions while reading. What might happen next? How is the story going to end? etc.
- Talk to your child about the characters in the book.
- Ask your child what character or part of the story was their favorite and why.
- Encourage your child to retell the story in their own words and/or draw a picture about the story. Discuss what happened first, in the middle and at the end of the story.
- Encourage your child to "read" the book multiple times. Read to each person in the family, to a stuffed animal, etc.
- Look for sight words in the story (the, a, we, she, he, go) etc.
- Remember that "reading" at this level can include children retelling the story from memory, making up the story according to the pictures, reading some of the words or reading most of the words. Please do not expect that your child will be reading the books independently to you initially.
- Most importantly, have fun!

I have also attached some information/articles regarding emergent reading for you.

Your child may bring home a new book each night if the previously borrowed book is returned. Our book collection is limited; parents will be asked to replace any book that is damaged or lost. When your child has read 25 books, they will become a member of the 25 Club and receive a new book to keep. Students often read 100 or more books by the end of the year! I will give students a new card for every 25 books they read as well as a new book to keep.

As always, thank you for your support and encouragement! Have fun!

Mrs. Scanlon