



Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child will soon begin working with the READ NATURALLY program. READ NATURALLY is a supplemental reading program designed to enable students to improve reading fluency.

Students who read fluently read smoothly and easily, without pausing to figure out words. These students identify words automatically. As a result, they can focus on meaning rather than word recognition when they read. As a rule, fluent readers comprehend better than non-fluent readers. Consequently, improving reading fluency is important for developing readers.

READ NATURALLY is a research-based program that enables students to become fluent readers. It has three components: teacher modeling, repeated reading, and progress monitoring. It is based on several research-based theories including the following:

- Students become good readers by reading.
- Reading along with a more proficient reader improves word recognition and reading fluency.
- Reading a passage several times improves fluency.
- Self-monitoring of progress improves reading achievement.

While working with READ NATURALLY, your child will select interesting, non-fiction passages at reading levels best suited for his/her development. S/he will read the passage while listening to a recording of the passage and then practice the passage several times until able to read it at a goal rate. Your child will monitor his/her progress by keeping a chart of timed readings before and after practicing each passage.

As your child's reading improves, s/he will be given more difficult passages to read and higher goal rates to achieve. Thank you for your support and feel free to call if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Uvonne B. Domingue and Tricia F. LeGros