

Literacy Centers for Independent Practice (K-2) and The Five Areas of Beginning Reading Instruction

These centers are designed around the Five Areas of Beginning Reading Instruction. There are 10 centers for each area. The centers provide an opportunity to practice the skills and then transfer these skills during independent reading.

Five Areas of Beginning Reading Instruction	Rationale	Centers
Phonemic Awareness	10 different Phonemic Awareness activities work with sounds, pictures cards, segmentation, and rhyming words. These are all activities that will work with whole group instruction and then become an independent center after modeling and practice.	Box Hunt, Clap It Out!, Magazine Search, Magazine Sort, Make a Sentence, Picture Alphabet, Picture Match, Rhyme It!, Room Collections, Wormy Words
Phonics	Strong phonics instruction will ultimately help children learn and use the alphabetic principle. These 10 centers provide opportunities for students to practice the systematic and predictable relationships between written letters and spoken sounds.	Add to My Alphabet, Final Blends, Initial Blends, Fun With Flash Cards, Magnetic Letters, Make a Word, Now I Can Spell..., Patten Detective, Playdough Spelling, Vowel Hunt
Fluency	Fluency is the ability to read text accurately and quickly. Fluency also includes prosody, the “song” of language. These 10 centers provide students an opportunity to reread familiar texts, buddy read, work with rhyming words, and listen to themselves on tape. As students mature as readers, they have a better understanding of what good readers sound like. These centers provide students multiple opportunities to reach that goal.	Alphabet Fluency, Be the Character, Feelings and Emotions, Find the Pattern, Listening Center, My Favorites, Poetry, Read to a Buddy, Rhyming Words, Tape Yourself!
Vocabulary	Vocabulary development is essential to developing independent readers. A large portion of reading vocabulary is internalized as we “meet” new and known words in different texts. Students are introduced to higher level vocabulary and begin to assimilate this vocabulary in to their spoken and written language. These 10 centers provide a framework for students to work with vocabulary as they meet new words in their independent reading.	Degree Chart, I Don’t Know, Interesting Words, Means the Same, Means the Opposite, Picture Definitions, Prefix Hunt, Suffix Hunt, Use It!, This Word Looks Like...
Text comprehension	Text comprehension is the ultimate goal of any reading instruction. Literacy Centers for Independent Practice provide activities which address multiple learning styles to meet this goal. At every step of the	Ask the Author, Ask the Character, Ask the Reader, Character Traits, Find the Facts, I Learned..., Setting, Text to Self, Text to Text, Text to World, Visualization,

	<p>way students are reading independently to gain meaning from the text. This approach to reading instruction allows students to be purposeful and actively engaged in monitoring their comprehension. Students are gradually released with different reading strategies. First, the strategy is modeled, then it is practiced in small group, and then students are expected to apply it in their reading response logs and through their independent tasks.</p>	<p>This Book is About...</p>
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