

# 3rd Grade Read Aloud Form

Thank you for your cooperation in helping your child become the best reader they can possibly be this year in 3<sup>rd</sup> grade! The read aloud form serves a vital role in our classroom! When your child brings his/her book home to read you are helping them develop study skills, reading skills, fluency skills, and comprehension skills. Repeated readings help the child learn the story more in depth therefore helping them score better on the comprehension questions on their weekly tests. In 3<sup>rd</sup> grade the students really begin to understand the importance of going back and rereading something when they don't understand a concept or a part of a story.

Reading out loud also helps the students develop fluency. Fluency is not something that is automatic to 3<sup>rd</sup> graders especially the first time they read a story. During the school week the students hear a taped fluent reading on the story on Monday, then on Tuesday as a class I model and they practice fluent reading a section of the story and then they also practice reading the story in small groups, and finally they read the story to you at home. This means the child is exposed to the story and hears it at least 3 times within a 4 day period. So by the time they bring their story home to you to read aloud they should be comfortable enough to begin reading fluently. This means using the correct expression for the story. Be wary of too much expression or incorrect expression this can sometimes lead to a misinterpretation of the story. Some of our fluency goals include having the student reading in 3-4 word phrases and not reading the story one word at a time. Pausing at commas, stopping at periods, knowing which words to stress, proper speed, and correct intonation at question marks and other punctuation.

Fluent reading is not an innate talent it is a modeled talent. Students learn how to be fluent through listening and then trying to match your voice/speed/intonation. This is why I recommend team reading some of the stories so they can hear what a fluent reader sounds like and echo it.

Thank you for your commitment to reading! Mrs. O



