**Middle-of-the-Year Reading Assessments**

Benchmark testing begins in December.

***Each child in Kindergarten will be tested on:***

***1. Text Reading Comprehension:***

Your child will read a story on their own and answer questions about it.  The levels go from Print Concepts and Reading Behaviors (not yet reading; still figuring out the front/back/how to read the story) all the way to level Z.  By the end of the year, all students will need to be reading at a level D or above. Regardless of their initial reading level, all children are expected to grow by 4 reading levels in K (for example, a student starting the year at a “B” will have a goal of “F” by the end of the year). Therefore, we hope that by the middle of the year, each child has improved by 2 levels or more.

***2. Initial Sound Fluency:***

"What's the first sound you hear in bell?" /b/

Students try to get as many sounds as possible in one minute.  
  
***3. Letter Naming Fluency:***

Students will look at letters and say the letter names.

Students try to get as many letter names as possible in one minute.

***4. Phoneme Segmentation Fluency:***

"What are the sounds you hear in bat?" /b/    /a/    /t/

Students try to get all the sounds in each word. In class, we tap these out on our arm.

***5. Nonsense Word Fluency - Correct Letter Sound:***

Students will look at a "silly" word and sound it out using the correct letter sound.  For example, "miz" would be sounded out:  /m/    /i/    /z/

***6. Nonsense Word Fluency - Words Read Correctly:***

Students will look at a "silly" word and read the word correctly.

For example, "miz" would be read "miz."

**How to help prepare your child:**

*\*\* Practice the above tasks at home. \*\**

*\*\* Practice sight words often! \*\**

Knowing sight words will be a **very** big help for students.  Practice often!  Play memory games, write them, read them, clap the letters in the words, use them to write sentences, etc. Also, focus on reading comprehension… ask “who,” “what,” “when,” “where,” and “why” questions as you read with your child. Ask him/her to stop every so often and ask what he/she just read.

**Please let me know if you have any questions. Thanks for your continued support from home!**