

**First Grade Reading Logs**

**& Book Baggies**

Today your first grader is bringing home their first grade Reading Log. “Book Baggies” will begin coming home on Tuesday of next week. Inside your child’s Reading Log, you will find a more detailed letter explaining our expectations for nightly reading with your first grader and additional suggestions for helping your child with nightly reading. Beginning next week, please be sure to sign the log and have your child return it to school each day. It will be kept in their purple folder. While I encourage reading each evening, I know that some nights are hectic. In first grade, our requirement is to read for at least ten minutes five out of seven nights each week.

The book baggies will come home each evening and will often contain books from your first grader’s Guided Reading group. These baggies will also contain their sight word ring and a set of “Comprehension Cue Cards.” The sight word ring should be reviewed each evening. Additional words will be added each week as we progress through our Journeys lessons. Most weeks, there will be a combination of decodable readers AND Journeys Guided Reading books found in your first grader’s book baggie. Next week however, we will begin by just sending home the decodable readers that we use in class each day.

I encourage your child to read the books each evening as part of their nightly reading and count that as their 10 minutes. Your first grader should read to a responsible adult. This could be a parent, grandparent, sibling, babysitter, or any other responsible person. While there is a small spot on the Reading Log under the title for comments, please don’t hesitate to put a sticky note or include a small note with additional comments.

Once Guided Reading is in full swing in the classroom, students will be introduced to a story during our Guided Reading lesson and will bring home that book that evening. The books should be at a comfortable reading level but don’t hesitate to provide help as needed-even reading to your child at times – so the experience is enjoyable. If it seems too easy, there are plenty of extensions: read fluently with expression, ask questions about the text features (bold, underlined, captions, etc), or discuss the punctuation. The “Reading Comprehension Cue Cards” inside your first grader’s book baggie, are an excellent resource for nightly reading. I encourage you all to use them each week to help build strong comprehension skills.

Reading regularly-even just 10-15 minutes a day—will help your child become a better reader. It might be a good idea to establish a routine of reading at approximately the same time each day, perhaps right after dinner or just before bedtime. Sometimes, it is helpful to read a book more than once to get extra practice and encourage fluency.

Please be sure your first grader brings their “Book Baggie” and all of its contents to school each morning, as we also use these in the classroom. Again, Reading Logs will be returned each day and kept in your first grader’s purple folder. It’s exciting to watch the students grow in reading and I truly value your support at home. In fact, the encouragement you give your child is vital to their success!

Thank you,

Mrs. Buckley