

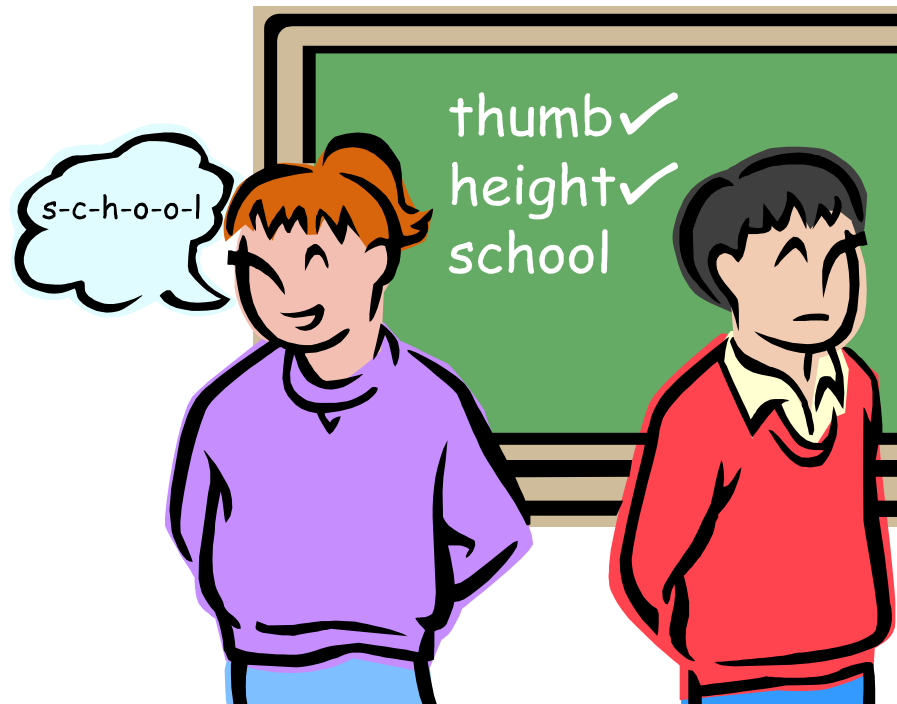
What is Balanced Literacy?

- ◆ It is a comprehensive program of language arts acquisition. It contains all of the components necessary for students to master written and oral communication.



Areas of emphasis include:

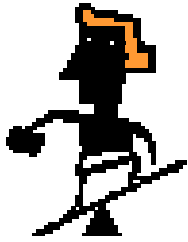
- ◇ reading,
- ◇ writing,
- ◇ speaking,
- ◇ listening,
- ◇ and viewing.



Balanced Literacy

- Balanced literacy begins with creating a genuine appreciation for good literature.
- It includes teaching phonics, grammar skills, reading and comprehension strategies, and writing forms and skills.
- Direct and indirect reading instruction, shared reading, and independent reading experiences must be provided.





Balanced Literacy

- ◇ Reading Aloud (Modeled Reading)
- ◇ Shared Reading
- ◇ Guided Reading
- ◇ Independent Reading
- ◇ Modeled or Interactive Writing
- ◇ Shared Writing
- ◇ Guided Writing (Writing Workshop)
- ◇ Independent Writing



Effectiveness of Balanced Literacy

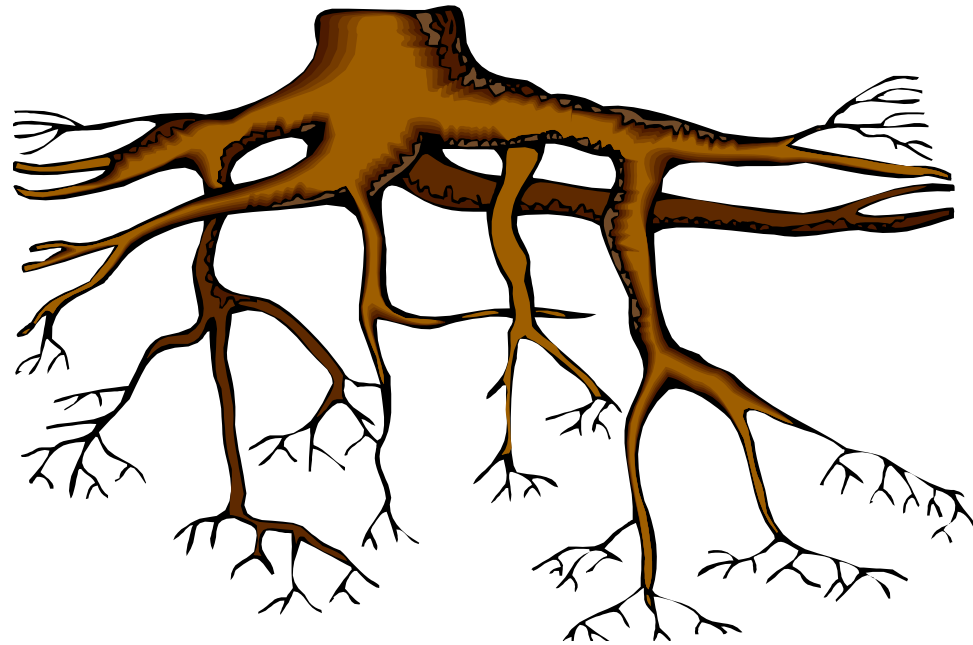
- A balanced literacy plan is most effective when children are given direct instructional support and a variety of daily reading and writing experiences that are needed in the complex process of becoming independent readers and writers.

What Is A Balanced Reading Program?

- ◇ A balanced reading program includes:
- ◇ Knowing students individually.
- ◇ Balancing both direct and indirect instruction.
- ◇ Balancing instructional activities including skills emphasis and meaning emphasis.



Balanced reading is deep-rooted in the belief that teachers should be constantly aware of students' individual needs and progress.



Teachers Should Use a Variety of Assessment Tools:

- ◇ teacher observations,
- ◇ oral reading samples,
- ◇ writing samples,
- ◇ spelling samples,
- ◇ portfolios,
- ◇ as well as standardized and other tests.



Teachers who know students individually provide many kinds of support, enabling students to move to higher levels of reading and literacy development.



Scaffolding Instruction

- ◆ Teachers of balanced reading provide direct instruction to scaffold learning and make learning to read and write easier.
- ◆ They also provide ample opportunity and support for students to use and extend their instruction in functional reading and writing.

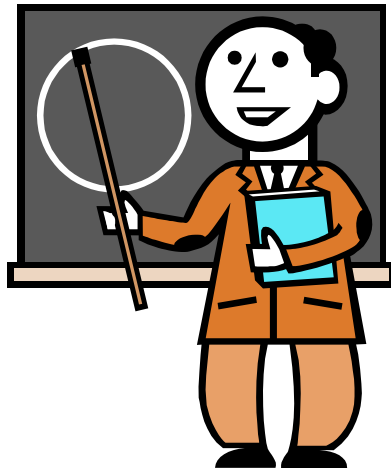


Examples of Scaffolding

◇ Story Mapping:

To help students think about how the different story elements work together:

- Characters
- Setting
- Problem
- Main events
- Resolution



◇ Character Sketching:

To help students focus on how the main character's personal traits often direct the action of the story.

◇ Cooperative Group Discussions:

To help students understand confusing concepts.

Learning Conditions

- ◇ Children must spend time - both inside and outside the classroom - reading and writing under conditions for learning that are favorable for individual achievement.



Teaching/Learning Styles

- ◇ Likewise, some time should be spent in individual, small-group, and whole-group direct instruction to support children's literacy needs.



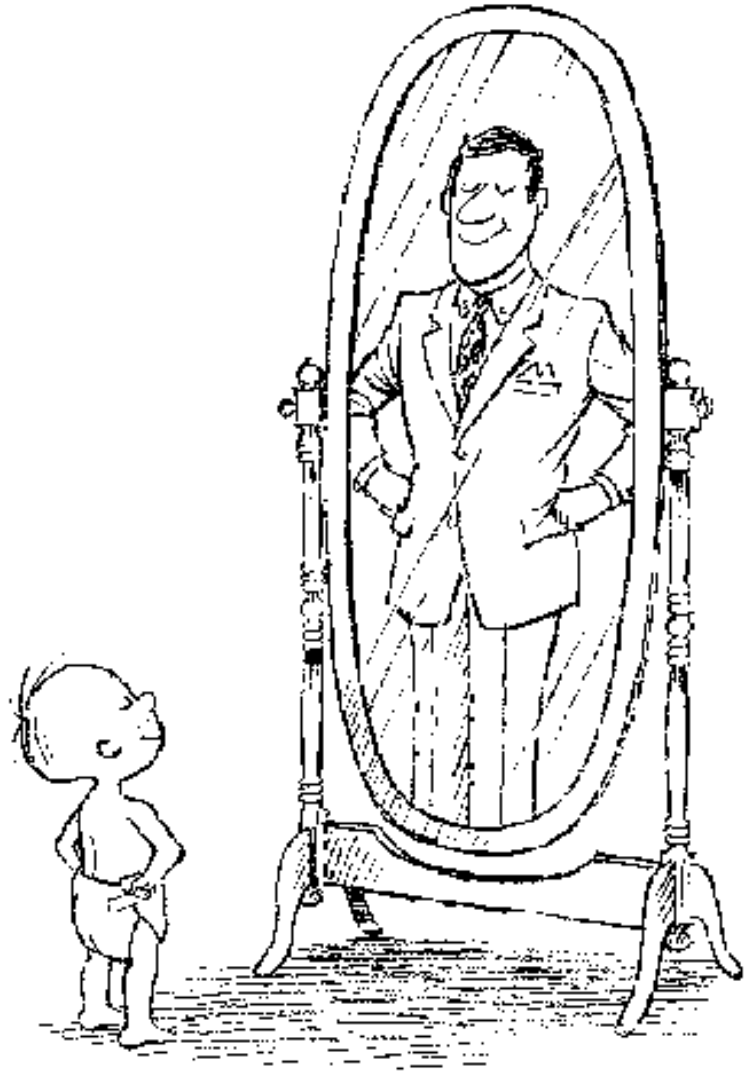
Engagement and Motivation

- ◇ Engagement and motivation are crucial components for children as they learn to read. Adults must foster joy in and purposefulness for reading because children will not become proficient readers if they do not enjoy the experience or see any value in it.



Long Range Goal

- ◆ Students must be proficient as readers, writers, and speakers to be successful, contributing adults and lifelong learners.



Start and End Each Day with Literature



- ◇ Use Books That Really Generate Response!

Developing Life-Long Habits

◇ Every child in every classroom, every day, deserves the chance to behave like and enjoy the pleasure of being a good reader.

