Books of the Month

Click, Clack, Moo: Cows That Type (Grades K-2)
By: Doreen Cronin, Betsy Lewin
Farmer Brown has his hands full when the cows on his farm get a typewriter. Duck, however, negotiates successfully for all parties in this very funny farm story of very clever animals. Be prepared to talk about typewriters or take a trip to a museum to see one!

Because of Winn-Dixie
By: Kate DiCamillo Grades 3-5
When Opal meets (and rescues) a dog in a Winn Dixie grocery store, the shaggy hound gains a name, a friend and a home. He also becomes the catalyst to bring a community together. Humor and goodwill are the hallmarks of this imaginative tale.

Focus of the Month: Fluency

Reading fluency is a child's ability to read a text correctly, quickly and with intonation and expression. Fluent reading sounds like talking. Fluent readers have developed automaticity which means that they can read words automatically. This is important because the reader can focus their attention on understanding the message (comprehending) rather than decoding the text. Here are some fun activities you can do at home with your child to help foster fluency.

• Paired or “Buddy” Reading - Sit with your child and take turns reading aloud. Your reading provides a model of what good fluent reading sounds like. Then, ask your child to reread the same page you just read.

• Reread Favorite Books or Poems - Build a tall stack of books or a collection of poems that your child can read quickly and easily. Encourage your child to read favorite books over and over.

• Listen to Books - Listening to a fluent reader read a book provides a model of fluent reading. You can expose your child to language and fluent, expressive reading by listening to audio books. Try out audio books on long car rides. You can also find audio books on Raz-Kids or you can google sites where you can download audio books to read on your digital devices. Try out gamequarium.com!

• Record It - Your child can create their own audiobooks by using a tape recorder, video on your phone, or audio recording app (such as Audioboo). Try out the "One Minute Reader iPad App" and compare recordings.

Website/App of the Month

One Minute Reader iPad App energizes students with exciting, short passages and cool progress graphs that students will want to show off. One Minute Reader improves fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary.

http://gamequarium.com
This website allows the students to choose the types of books they would like to listen to and read along with. At the end of most of the stories, there is an activity that goes along with the story.

Reading Challenge of the Month

Have an adult read aloud to you. Then, match your voice to theirs. Read your favorite books and poems over and over again. Practice getting smoother and reading with expression. Use books on tapes and follow along in the print copy.