#### Dear Parent/Guardian:

Your child will begin working with the Read Naturally program soon. Read Naturally is a supplemental reading program designed to enable students to improve reading fluency and comprehension.

Students who read fluently read smoothly and easily, without pausing to figure out words. These students identify words automatically. As a result, they can focus on meaning rather than word recognition when they read. As a rule, fluent readers comprehend better than non-fluent readers. Consequently improving reading fluency is important for developing readers.

Read Naturally is a research based program that enables students to become fluent readers. It has three components: Teacher/Parent Modeling, repeated reading, and checking for understanding. It is based on several research based theories including the following:

- \*Students become good readers by reading.
- \* Reading along with a more proficient reader improves word recognition and reading fluency.
- \*Reading a passage several times improves fluency and comprehension.
- \* Self -monitoring of progress improves reading achievement

As your child's reading improves, he/she will be given more difficult passages to read. Please see the attached page with the daily recommended practice. Thank you for your support and feel free to e-mail or call if you have any questions or concerns ©.

Sincerely,

Your 3<sup>rd</sup> Grade Teachers

### Read Naturally Daily Schedule (5-10 min)

## Monday-Go Over Key Words With Your Student:

Discuss these vocabulary words and try to give an every day example.

#### Write a Prediction:

Have your student look at the title and picture and predict what this story is going to be about without reading the story ©.

Tuesday-Parent reads the story to model fluency.

Student reads the story to the parent.

Wednesday-Student re-reads the story to the parent.

Student answers comprehension questions.

Thursday-<u>Student re-reads the story</u> and <u>writes</u> a one paragraph <u>retell</u> of the story. Please see attached example ©.

# Retell

Answer these questions in paragraph form.

What was the story about?

Identify the story, choose a summary word (verb): explain, describes, gives, tells, provides, shows, presents, or lists, and then finish your thought.

What did you learn about the story? What else did you learn about the story? What was an interesting fact in the story? Did you like the story?

Your paragraph might look like this:

The story describes the history and interesting facts about knitting. I learned that knitting is done with knitting needles and yarn. I also learned that many articles of clothing are knitted like socks, sweaters, scarves and hats. The most interesting thing I learned from the story was years ago women would participate in knitting circles as a social and productive part of their daily lives. I really liked learning about the craft of knitting. I would recommend that you read this story too.