How Will I Know A Good Reading Program When I See One?
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Scoring: 1 point for each "yes" - 15 possible points

Yes  No

• The reading knowledge of all kindergarten students is assessed with a screening test to be administered no later than mid-year.

• Reading instruction and practice lasts ninety minutes or more every day in first, second and third grade, and sixty minutes or more in kindergarten.

• All students in first, second, and third grades who are behind in reading receive structured instruction and practice for at least sixty minutes within each school day, in addition to the ninety minutes a day provided for regular reading instruction.

• Additionally, before or after school sessions are provided for all second and third grade students who need more help. Basic reading instruction and practice is repeated, as necessary. Summer school instruction is also available for students who are behind at the year's end.

• Reading instruction and practice includes the following elements:
  a. dividing spoken words into individual sounds;
  b. blending individual sounds into spoken words;
  c. learning names and sounds of letters;
  d. reading new words (decoding) by blending letter sound together; and
  e. practice with words, sentences, and stories that are selected to represent ongoing sound and letter instruction.

• Vocabulary building is included in instruction at each grade level. First, second, and third grade reading instruction includes daily spelling practice and spelling tests (at least weekly).

• The connection between reading and writing is emphasized on a daily basis. Writing activities are completed regularly and are corrected and returned to the students. By the end of second grade, students resubmit corrected papers. Corrected papers are sent home on a regular basis.

• All students are read to each day from outstanding fiction and non-fiction books, and discuss these books with each other and their teachers.

• All students have a chance to read both silently and aloud in school each day and at home each evening.

• Every classroom has a library of books with a range of difficulty from books children can read easily to those that are challenging.

• The school library has many books that children want to read. Students have access to the school library during summer vacations.

• Students maintain a record of books they read in class and at home. School-wide rewards and special recognition are given to students to read a lot of books.

• Weekly reading achievement records for each student are maintained in each classroom and summarized and sent home every three weeks.

• At the end of each school year, a standardized measurement of reading achievement of every student (K through 3) is completed, results are sent home to parents with a report of the student's grade level achievement. When required, a remediation plan is attached.

TOTAL ___________________