

Dear Parents,

A child who can read well is more likely to succeed in school and perform well with class work, teacher evaluations, and on standardized tests. Here are some reading skills that are important for success and ways you can help at home.

COMPREHENSION

Comprehension is more than just being able to recognize and pronounce words----it's about making sense of what the words say. Often tests measure comprehension by asking students to find the main idea. To help your child find the main idea:

- **USE THE NEWSPAPER.** Cut out a short article. Then cut off the headline. Ask your child to read the article and write a headline that summarizes the main idea. Compare the two headlines.
- **USE NONFICTION.** Nonfiction writing is about real people, places, and things. Many standardized tests use nonfiction text for reading comprehension. Help your child select interesting nonfiction books to read. Then ask you child to tell you the main idea of a paragraph or a chapter from the nonfiction book.

Remember that Clover Garden purchased the rights to Study Island, an excellent program to help prepare your child for NC State Testing. If you have not visited this site, give it a try.

I will be in my room Tuesday, April 10, 2012, from 6:15 PM until 6:45 PM. (This is PTT/SAT meeting night.) If you have any concerns or suggestions as to how I can better serve you child more productively, please come to see me. I can also be reached by phone during the school day if that is more convenient. My goal is to help your child be successful.

Thank you for your continued support.

Sincerely,
Donna Johnson