

“Your Brain on Books”

Conversation with Lea Mathieu, CMS Reading and Humanities Teacher
Parent Information Night, September 24, 2019

Key point: Reading is a very complex process that integrates skills and knowledge

What do we need in order to improve our reading (at any level)?

- Access to engaging (to the reader!) books

- Choice in what we read

- Time to read

- Some form of accountability / reflection on what we read

In my LA and lab classes, we set aside 15 minutes a day for SSR; we have one-on-one reading conferences in LA and impromptu book talks in lab

What is balanced literacy instruction?

- Phonics and word recognition

 - Word study, including spelling

- Comprehension

 - From the text

 - Using prior knowledge

 - Often developed in oral or written conversation

- Writing

 - In response to texts or conversation - writing to understand

 - As a means of articulating our own ideas and beliefs