



Vol.1 No. 11

#### Best Practices at AES >>>>>>>

- Students working out and explaining problems at the board.
- Students using text to find the definitions of words.
- Students creating vocabulary maps.
- Teachers working with small groups.

## This Week's Shout Outs Goes To.

- Our new custodial staff: Mrs. Beatrice Davis, Mr. Gatling, & Mr.
  Cedric Parker. Welcome them to Ahoskie Elementary School.
- Our new head custodian: Mr. Derrick Eley for all of his dedication.
- Ms. Shirley Bunch for going beyond the call of duty and assisting our office staff and teachers.
- Ahoskie Elementary Students for reading a total of 4076 books as of November 29, 2012. Looks like Mr. Warren & Ms. Scott better get their clown costumes ready!!! Only 3,924 more to go!!
- Mr. Hobbs' Fourth Grade Homeroom for reading 324 books so far this nine weeks, Mrs. Bright's Fifth Grade Homeroom for reading a total of 130 books so far this nine weeks, Mrs. Chlomoudis' Homeroom for reading a total of 247 books so far this nine weeks.
- Mrs. Mitchell's Fourth Grade Homeroom, Ms. Brown's Fifth Grade Homeroom, and Mrs. Eley's Sixth Grade Homeroom for having the highest average.



## Just for Thought:

Nationally, 85 percent of children from low-income families failed to reach proficiency levels by fourth grade on the 2011 National Assessment of Educational Progress. Improving reading proficiency is seen as imperative to keeping the U.S. competitive in the global marketplace, and third grade is where the battle is being fought hardest.

In August, we received approximately 195 fourth graders. Fourth graders are students who have just completed third grade. We were all concerned because there were a high percentage of students in fourth grade who, based on STAR and Reading 3-D data, who for some reason were not reading on third grade level. Not only were there a high percentage in fourth grade, but in fifth and sixth as well. As a result of the data, an intervention block was put in place. During the intervention block, it was established that students were to be grouped by their ability levels and be given individualized instruction based on their skill deficits. These students were to be given thirty minutes of intensive instruction in literacy per day in addition to their regular instruction. Now as we approach the end of the first semester, we need to ask ourselves the following questions:

- 1. Have we provided the students with the necessary skills that they need to be successful in society?
- 2. Are we individualizing their instruction to meet their needs?
- 3. Have we provided resources for them?
- 4. Have the students improved?

At this point in the school year, we need to reassess, re-evaluate, and redo. If what we have been trying is not giving us the results we need, we need to establish what we can do differently. How can we ensure that all students regardless of their level, are getting the skills that they need to survive? How are we going to change what we are doing if it is not working? Remember, "If we keep doing what

we have always done, we will keep getting what we always got". Is this what we want or do we want more?



# Reading Resources

http://www.teachhub.com/easy-reading-strategies-inclusiveclassroom-part-1

http://www.teachhub.com/easy-reading-strategies-inclusiveclassrooms-part-2

http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/sites/default/files/asset/file/s etting-the-stage-reading-response.pdf

http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/sites/default/files/asset/file/s tory-board-reading-comprehension-graphic-organizer.pdf

http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/sites/default/files/asset/file/whats-the-main-idea-reading-comprehension.pdf

http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/sites/default/files/asset/file/c rossing-the-prediction-bridge-reading-response.pdf

http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/sites/default/files/asset/file/reader-response-triple-scoop-graphic-organizer.pdf



I would like to thank all of you for your dedication and support at AES!!! As we walk around AES, let's all remember to Be Responsible, Expect the Best, Always be Prepared, Respect Others, and Stay Safe!!! Let's make 2012-2013, a year in which AES shines all over Hertford County and North Carolina!!!!

#### Have a wonderful weekend!!!!!

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