



Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System

Dear Parent or Guardian,

As an invested partner in your child's learning, we would like to share more information about the *Fountas & Pinnell (F & P) Benchmark Assessment System* with you. The *Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System* (Third Edition) is a one-on-one assessment that helps teachers to identify your child's specific reading strengths and appropriate instructional reading level for small group instruction. The data gained from this assessment conference with your child helps us to identify goals and plan instruction that supports your child's reading progress across the school year.

The Benchmark Assessment System provides a snapshot in time of your child's literacy development and will be administered up to 3 times across the school year. Over the next few weeks, your child's teacher will assess each student in the class by having them read Benchmark Assessment books, having them think about the books, and talking one-on-one with them about each book. This natural, authentic assessment conference is a wonderful opportunity for your child's teacher to get to know your child as a reader and to observe them engaged in literacy activities. It will provide a rich source of information to inform instruction.

Here are some ways you can support your child's literacy at home:

1. Visit your local library together. Encourage your child to select books that excite them.
2. Read books to or with your child and talk about them together.
3. Listen to your child read books and talk about them together.
4. Most importantly, enjoy your time together reading, writing, and talking!

If you have any questions related to the *Fountas & Pinnell Benchmark Assessment System*, please reach out to your school's Principal or Instructional Coach.

Sincerely,

Maima Simmons
District Literacy & MTSS Coordinator