**Daily 5**

The Daily 5 is a structured Language Arts program that helps students develop the daily habits of reading, writing, and working with peers that lead to a lifetime of independent literacy. It is a switch from “traditional” literacy centers where children are working on multiple worksheets/projects that get sent home. There are 5 core elements and we are beginning to work with 4 of them at the kindergarten level right now. In class we participate in:

**Listen to Reading**: use books on CD/tape /computer

**Work on Writing**: A time for students to express themselves in writing using what they have learned so far in kindergarten. They write words very much like they sound. They focus on sounding out words, and writing simple sentences.

**Word Work**: students practice letters, sounds and high frequency words. They sort pictures by sounds, and do hands on activities using different tools to build words.

**Read to Self:** Students practice the skills we have learned about what good readers do and how you can read a book. They are reading at their level and learning to pick good fit books for the free choice selection.

Children are also **Meeting with the Teacher** for guided reading lessons, and will soon be learning **Read to Someone**.

In between rotating between these elements, the students come to the gathering spot on the carpet for mini lessons that are targeting whole class instruction based on emerging needs in reading, comprehension, and phonemic awareness. Fine tuning and differentiation occurs in one on one or small group conferring.

Talk with your children about the wonderful readers they are becoming and you’ll be surprised at how much they already have learned!