

What is a Literacy Center?

A literacy center is a place or activity that:

- Invites students to practice and apply strategies that have been taught and modeled in shared and guided literacy lessons
- Promotes reading, writing, speaking and viewing
- Allows students to manipulate language in both oral and written form
- Engages the learner through interaction
- Exposes students to a variety of text
- Provides open-ended activities for students
- Enables the teacher to assess and evaluate the students' use of literacy strategies



Possible Literacy Centers and their Purpose:

Classroom Library - Provides students with a variety of print and genre to practice reading skills and strategies.

Listening - Increases speaking, reading and writing vocabulary. Allows students to self-monitor fluency and progress in reading.

Literature Response - Gives students the opportunity to authentically respond to a text they have read or heard.

Poetry - Encourages students to read and perform various poems with fluency and expression. Exposes the struggling reader to rhyme, rhythm, and repetition.

Research - Integrates the study of science and social studies into the literacy hour. Provides children time to interact with non-fiction text.

Spelling/Word Work - Allows students to manipulate letters and words which can be integrated into their reading and writing experiences.

Writing - Provides opportunity for children to practice the writer's craft and target skills through self-selected topics and methods of presentation.