

Title I Newsletter

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Class News

This year is off to a great start so far! October is an exciting month; there are leaves changing, temperatures dropping and the best holiday of all...Halloween! Here's what is happening in the Title I room.

Title 1 has Improved!!!

This year is very exciting for Title I at Ida elementary because we have restructured our program to help more students with their specific needs.

Title I is still helping struggling students with Reading and Math skills, but now we are using research based assessments that allows us to identify specific needs for each student. Title I instruction remains in small groups, but the kids are now grouped according to their needs.

The number of times the children are seen by the Title I teacher is also based on the childrens' needs. Therefore, those students who need more help will be seen more often during the week; those who need less help will only be seen a couple times a week.

With the addition of full-day Kindergarten, Title I is now allowing more time for Kindergarten students to receive help. This is very important because research shows that early interventions in K and 1st grade can greatly increase student performance for those who are struggling.



Change Behavior Instantly!!!

In September, NBC had a 20/20 special about child behavior and THE POWER OF PRAISE!!! The show highlighted several families and the troubles they were facing regarding child behaviors.

What the show uncovered was that parents were making the behaviors worse with negative reinforcement. The answer to fixing their child's behavior was praise! When you praise your child for the good things they do, they will strive for that kind of attention again and will repeat desired behaviors. Positive attention will show children they are loved, that you are proud of them, and will make them feel smarter and more confident.



Are You Flexible About Reading

Some facts about reading may surprise you. How much do you know? Respond *True* or *False* to the following statements:

- ___1. **Children are often good** at choosing their own books.
- ___2. **It's okay to stop reading a book** if your child is bored.
- ___3. **Some books with sad or scary parts** are fine for kids.
- ___4. **Even if your child can read**, you should read aloud to him sometimes.
- ___5. **You should let your child interrupt** stories with questions and comments.



How Did You Do?

If you answered mostly True, you're doing great! Mostly False? Try some ideas from the quiz.

Does Your Child Procrastinate When Doing Homework?

One cause may be that reading is intimidating. If reading is hard for your child then homework is too. But don't let her avoid it. Expect her to stick to a study time- such as every day before dinner. Always provide supervision and support. Try these tips to make reading easier:

1. **Designate a quiet area** for reading where there are no distracting noises or toys
2. **Allow a highlighter**, if possible, to highlight important ideas.
3. **Break-up larger reading assignments** into smaller sections to be accomplished throughout the day, week, or afternoon.
4. **Practice flash cards** that are age appropriate.

