

# Creating a Culture of Literacy in School

## ✓ CHECKLIST

- Children in all grade levels participate in sustained silent reading every day.
- Quality children's books are used in display cases featuring a book theme or author.
- Books are commonly used as special gifts such as on the birthday of each child in the school or as a "welcome to school" gift.
- Author studies and book reports by children are on display in the hallway and in classrooms.
- When possible, children's book authors come to the school to visit and talk to the children.
- Children take books home from the school library each week.
- Children from older grades have buddies in younger grades that they read to on a regular basis.
- Specialists build children's books into their music, art and physical activity programs.
- Teachers work with parents to encourage them to read aloud to their children at home.
- Teachers show children how to treat a book with respect by handling it gently and with clean hands.
- Children are empowered to be authors and illustrators of their own books.
- Books are celebrated at school-wide festivals with activities to extend the books.
- The school principal reads aloud to children in their classroom or at lunch.
- Families are invited to visit the school library and check out books with their child.
- Reading and writing challenges occur during the year.
- A used book exchange shelf is set up for families to take books home to keep.
- Books and reading are the main topic of some school assemblies and special guests are invited to read aloud.
- Teachers use books as part of every area of discipline.
- The school library is sufficiently funded so that new books can regularly be purchased.
- Teachers attend trainings to inform, inspire and keep them up to date on children's literature.

