



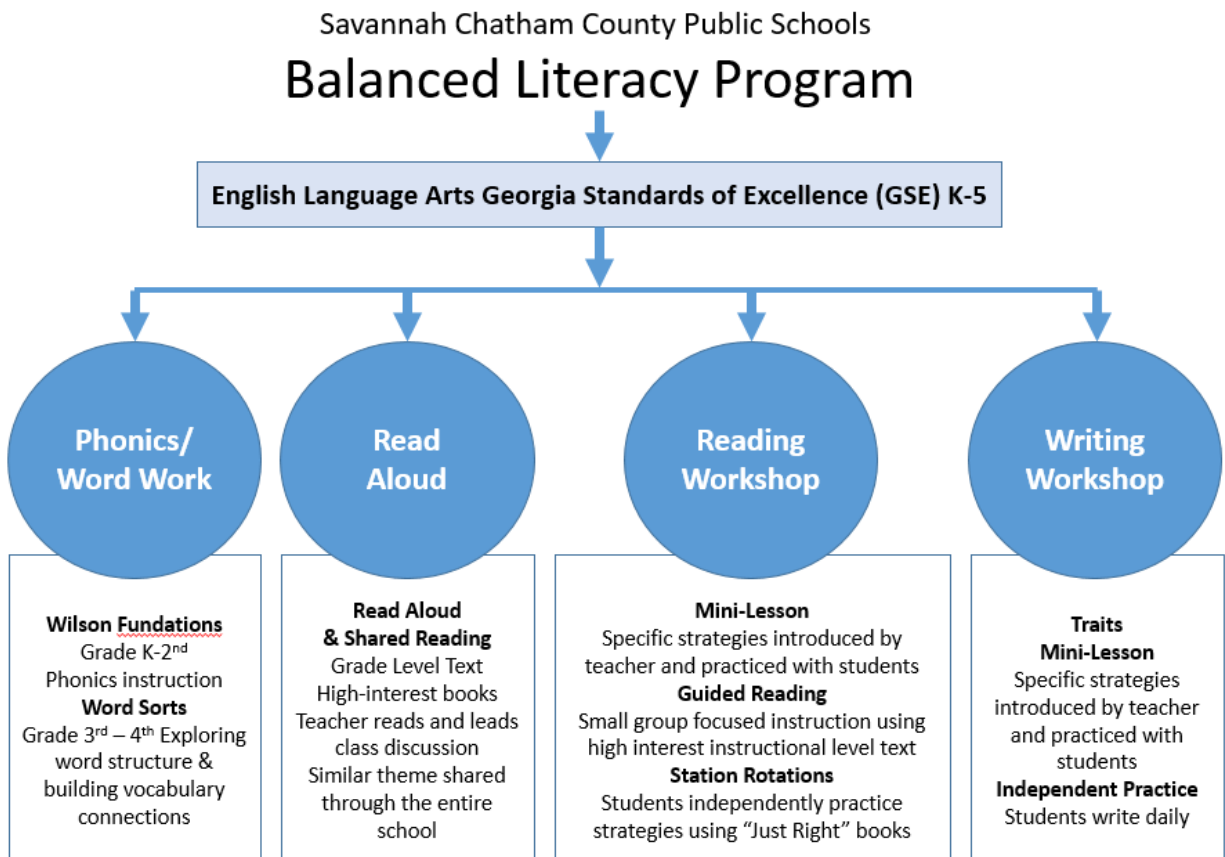
Balanced Literacy

Parent Information

2017-2018 - Office of Academic Affairs
Savannah Chatham County Public School System

Exciting changes in reading and writing instruction are happening in kindergarten through fifth grade classrooms in Chatham County this school year. The Balanced Literacy program is an opportunity for teachers and students to use high-interest, engaging books to practice the Georgia English Language Arts Standards of Excellence in reading and writing.

We all know that practice makes perfect. Research shows that the amount of time students are directly engaged in reading and writing dramatically affects academic success. The Balanced Literacy program assures that students get the maximum amount of time with eyes on the page and pen in hand.



What Can Parents Do at Home?

- The single most important thing you can do is encourage independent reading, read with, or listen to your child read daily. See the chart below to see the impact just 20 minutes a day will make.
- Talk to your scholar about what they are reading. Ask questions that might spark a conversation. For instance, ask what advice they might give the main character or what would happen if the story took place at another time or place?
- Consider joining the public library. In addition to free book checkout, the Live Oak library also offers videos, audiobooks and e-books for the entire family.
- Consider the ways your own attitudes about reading impact your scholar. Use positive language about reading with your child.
- Write letters to each other. Remember how special it felt to get a letter when you were young? Have fun writing notes and responding to each other.
- Play games using language – *Hangman*, *Boogle*, *Would You Rather?*, crosswords, puns, *MadLibs*, etc.

Million Book Challenge

SCCPSS has launched a serious book challenge! One million books by May! Each school is being challenged to collect 12,000 books. Amazing prizes are being offered to those first at meeting their goals.

For more details, check with your school, or visit <https://www.smore.com/4bu98-million-book-challenge?ref=email>.

