



Reading Counts Kindergarten and First Grade

The Reading Counts program is designed for independent readers. Consequently, not all Kindergarten or first grade students are ready for the Reading Counts program. Typically, most first graders are able to read beginning level books independently by January. A small handful of students read independently in the fall of first grade; an even smaller number of students may read independently in Kindergarten.

As an enrichment program, any student in Kindergarten or first grade who is reading independently, and interested in taking quizzes, can earn the Reading Counts trophy when fifty points have been earned. Both the Kindergarten and First Grade teams require that all students be able to read a list of sight words before a student can begin the program. It is also important to note that this is an enrichment activity and students must have completed their daily studies before they are allowed to take a quiz.

Points are based on word count in the RC program and most beginning reader books are one or two points. If, at the end of first grade, a student has progressed in their ability to be successful at taking some quizzes but not able to earn 50 pts., we will celebrate their success, and present them with a Reading Counts certificate.

Additionally, some students get so enthusiastic with their reading progress that, by the end of first grade, they may be taking nearly one quiz every school day. It is quite possible for these students to earn a hundred points or more. We like to honor this achievement of one hundred points with the title of "Jr. Quiz Master."

Please remember that the goal of the Reading Counts program is to motivate and encourage reading in a loving, positive manner. Pushing a child to read to take quizzes may not be the best approach. By far, the best environment we suggest to parents is to read with your child daily for enjoyment, discovery and meaningful family time. If, at any time, you have questions or concerns about the program, please don't hesitate to ask your child's teacher or contact Mrs. Sloan.