

○ ○ ○ **THE IMPORTANCE OF EARLY LITERACY FOR YOUR CHILD'S FUTURE** ○ ○ ○



Loren Parsons M.Ed

"Reading and writing proficiency depends upon the ***accurate and rapid recognition and understanding of words*** in context, and the accurate and easy production of words in writing" (Morrow & Gambrell, 2018).



Lesley Mandel Morrow, & Linda B. Gambrell. (2018). Best Practices in Literacy Instruction. The Guilford Press

What Does This Mean?

Children and teens need to quickly and accurately recognize words without pausing to sound them out. This allows them to fully understand the meaning of a story or text.

Why Is This Important for Me and My Child?

The *Massachusetts Department of Education's Curriculum Framework* states:

"Students are expected to read extended texts—well-written, full-length novels, plays, long poems, and informational texts—chosen for the importance of their subject matter and excellence in language use" (Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education)

To thrive in Massachusetts public schools and beyond, students must be able to read confidently and fluently, without hesitation. Strong reading skills are essential not only for academic success but also for lifelong learning and effective communication.



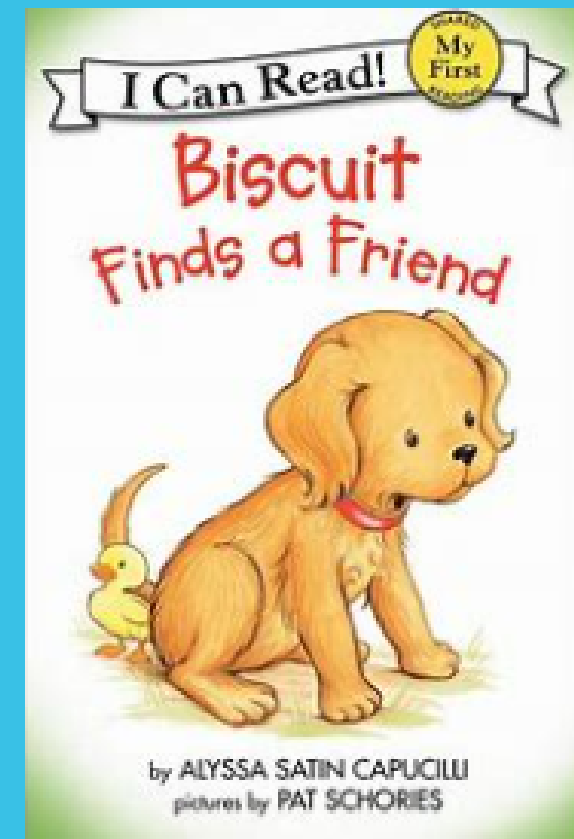
What should my child be
reading?



Beginning/Emergent Readers

Shared Readers

(ages 0 - 5)



Fluent Readers

Chapter Books

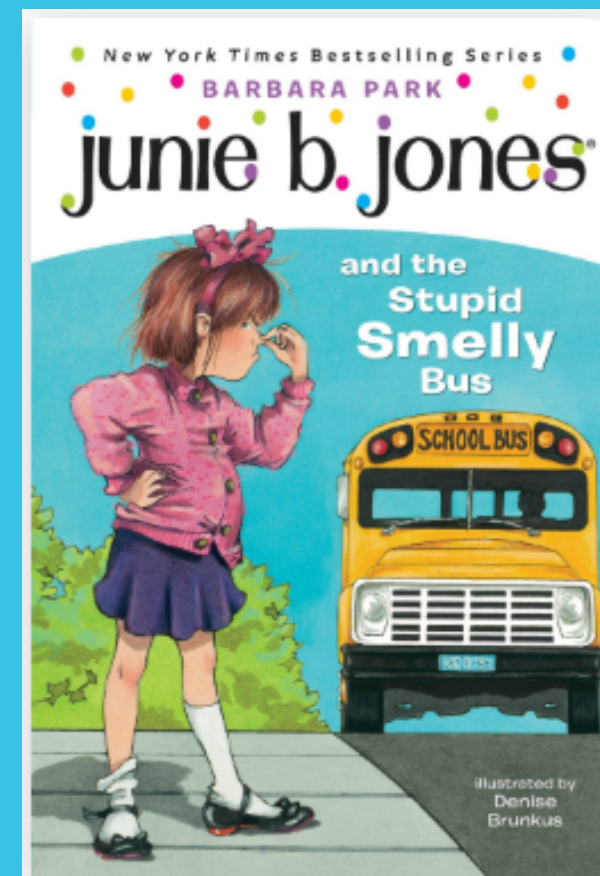
(ages 9 -12)



Early Readers

On My Own

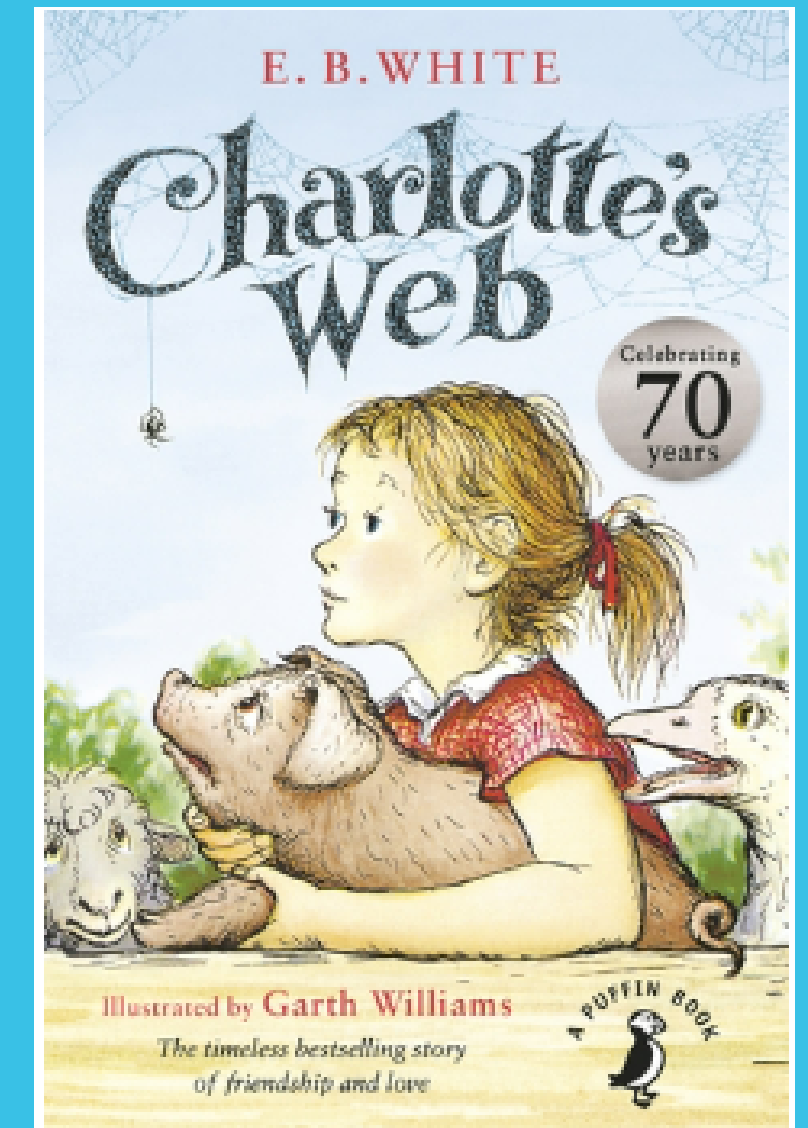
(ages 5 - 7)



Transitional Readers

Series Books

(ages 7 - 9)



What level is my child reading at?

Children learn to read at their own pace, progressing through different stages based on their experiences rather than their age or grade.

- **Beginning/Emergent Readers (commonly found in age 0 - 5)** – These children are just starting to explore books. They recognize letters, words, and patterns, even if they can't read independently yet. Reading aloud, looking at pictures, and discussing stories help them build confidence.
- **Early Readers (commonly found in ages 5 - 7)** – At this stage, children begin to predict words and use pictures for clues. They start to understand storylines and develop strategies to read new words while keeping the meaning in mind.
- **Transitional Readers (commonly found in ages 7 - 9)** – These children read more fluently and enjoy book series with familiar characters and settings. They read at a steady pace and use strategies to understand more complex texts.
- **Fluent Readers (commonly found in ages 9 -12)** – Fluent readers read independently and understand how texts convey ideas. They can read longer, more difficult materials while making connections and thinking critically about what they read.

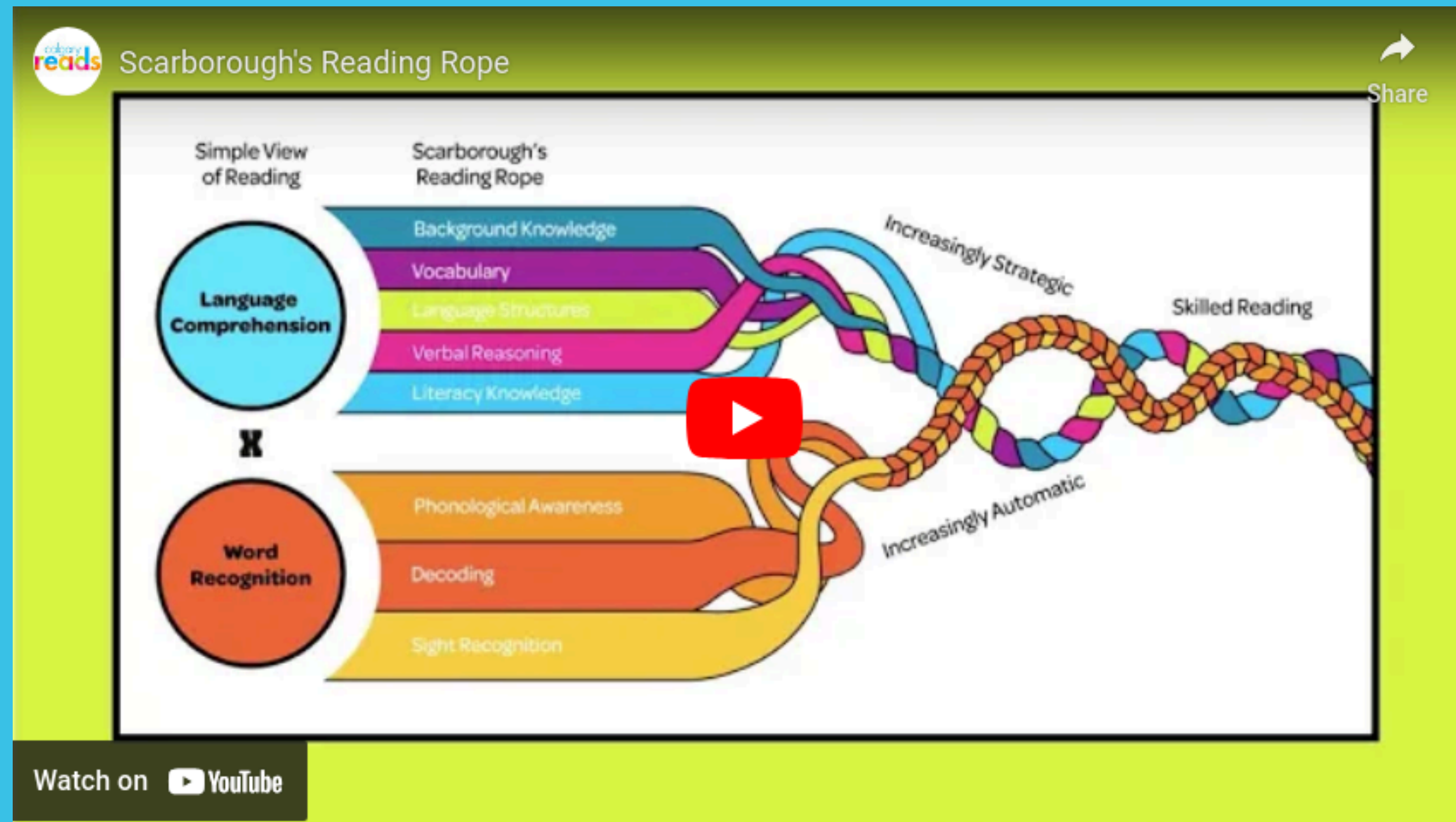


What are the foundations of reading?



Reading is like a friendship bracelet!

A great way to understand reading development is through Scarborough's Reading Rope. It has two key parts: word recognition and language comprehension. When these skills are strengthened together, they form a strong foundation that helps children become confident, successful readers.



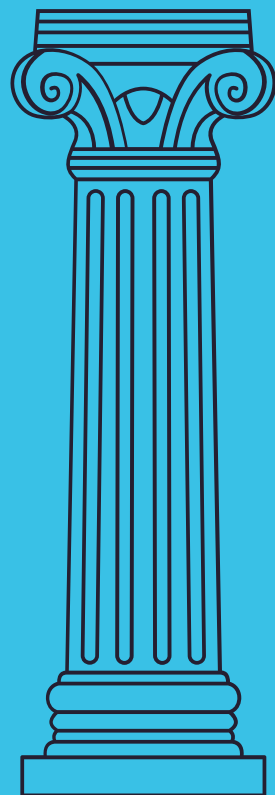
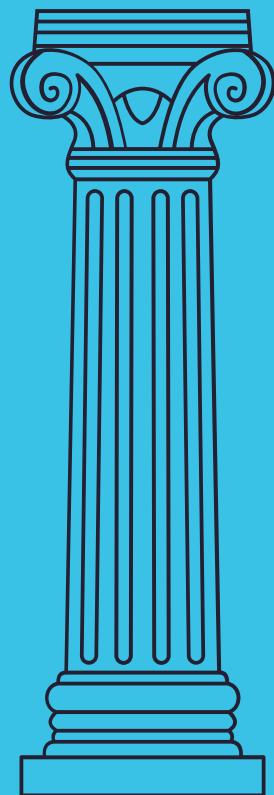
Or think of reading like pillars that hold up a statue!

All these skills work together to help children become strong and confident readers!

1

Phonemic Awareness – This is the ability to hear and work with individual sounds in words. Children learn to *recognize, blend, and change sounds to form words.*

Lesson concept:



2

Phonics – Phonics teaches the connection between letters and sounds. Understanding how letters represent sounds helps children read words and spell them correctly.

Lesson concept:



3

Fluency – Fluency is reading smoothly, accurately, and with expression. When children read fluently, *they can focus more on understanding* the story rather than just sounding out words.

Lesson concept:

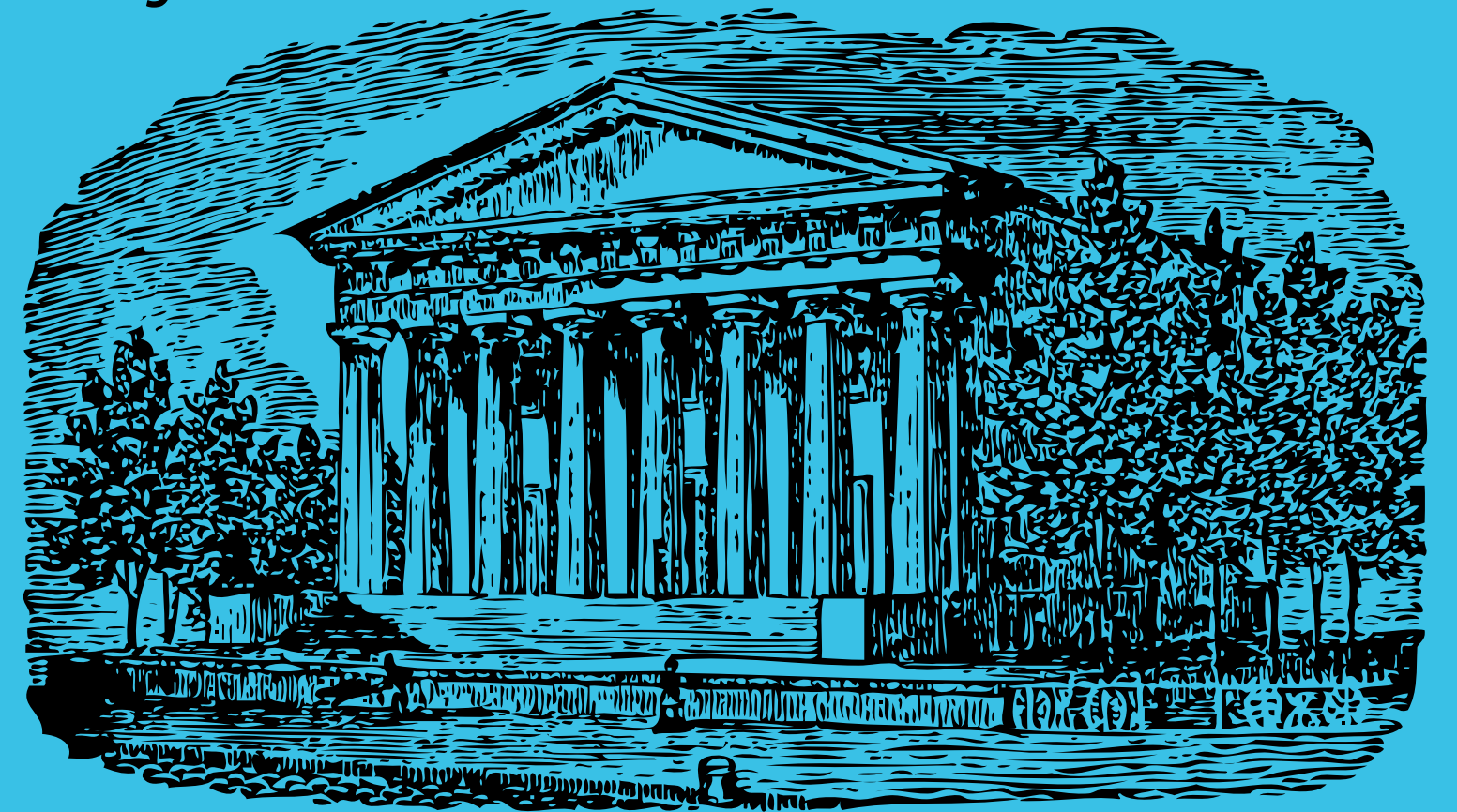


4

Vocabulary – Knowing and understanding words is essential for reading and communication. A strong vocabulary helps children express themselves and understand what they read.

5

Comprehension – This is the ability to understand and make sense of what is read. It combines different skills, like decoding words, knowing vocabulary, and thinking critically about the text.



My child reads at school, why is additional instruction important?

“A Structured Literacy approach will teach the skill components identified by the National Reading Panel, the Simple View of Reading, and Scarborough's Reading Rope in an explicit, systematic, and responsive way that effectively helps all students learn to read” (Lexia, 2023).

What effects my child's reading experience and education in school?

- Oversized Classrooms
- Limited Small Group and Individual Instruction Time
- Behavior Concerns
- Overworked Teachers
- Limited Supplies, Space and Resources

COMING SOON

Join me at The Reading Refinery

Join the movement and donate to Loren's literacy fundraiser. Help her build her dream of giving back to the community while increase reading and writings skills for all!

Click the GoFundMe Link to help!!

