

## How to use the packet:

**Instant Words:** This packet contains 300 “must know” words. These words alone make up about 65% of all written material. Does your child know all of these words? Keep this list at home and practice it often. When your child masters the first hundred, tell them to come and read them to me for a special prize. They can then come when they’ve mastered the second hundred and then the third receiving a prize each time.

**Fluency Practice:** In the packet you will find a fluency story. **This story is a fourth grade level story**, so they may struggle with it the first time they read it. You should see them improve some over the course of the week. The first week will be “No Pet’s Allowed!” by Kathy Wong. There is a copy for the student to read and a copy for you to follow along with and mark. Time your child for *one minute*. Follow along and cross out any words they don’t know or that you had to help them with. Make sure to give them the correct word if they struggle for 3 seconds. Record the number of words read at the top and then subtract the number of words they missed. This will give you their total words correct per minute. **Let your child** record their progress every day for the week on the line graph. You will read this same passage every day the first week recording their progress each day. They will return this in their folder on Friday and receive a new passage for the next week.

**Leveled Readers and Home Reading Log:** Your child also has in their folder five readers that have been specifically chosen to match their grade equivalency level on STAR. Please allow them to choose a different reader for each night of the week. They should read the book aloud to you. They will then complete the home reading log with the title of the book that they chose and a short summary of what they read. Please sign off on the parent signature line and mark how many minutes they read. They should spend no more than 24 minutes each night completing the reading and the summary for each leveled reader.

All of these things combined should take you no more than 30 minutes per night. I realize that we all have busy schedules, but for your child to improve in reading it is absolutely imperative that you make time for this and make it a priority for you and your child.

Each Friday, your child will come to my room with their completed fluency graph and home reading log. They will receive a reward for their hard work each week. At this point they will also receive a new fluency story and new leveled readers. Please feel free to make notes/comments for me on your child’s sheets. Let me know if you feel like their stories are too hard or too easy. Also, you may contact me here at school during school hours any day of the week. (423) 338-4510.

Working together, we will ensure the best possible chance of success for your child.  
I look forward to working with you!

Sincerely,  
Tamra Lanning  
Curriculum At-Risk Data Specialist