SPRUCE STREET SCHOOL READING CONTINUUM

Preconventional	Emerging	Developing	Beginning	Expanding
Begins to choose reading materials (e.g., books, magazines, and charts) and has favorites. Shows interest in reading signs, labels, and logos (environmental print). Recognizes own name in print. Holds book and turns pages correctly. Shows beginning/end of book or story. Knows some letter names. Listens and responds to literature. Comments on illustrations in books. Participates in group reading (books, rhymes, poems, and songs).	Memorizes pattern books, poems, and familiar books. Begins to read signs, labels, and logos (environmental print). Demonstrates eagerness to read. Pretends to read. Uses illustrations to tell stories. Reads top to bottom, left to right, and front to back with guidance. Knows most letter names and some letter sounds. Recognizes some names and words in context. Makes meaningful predictions with guidance. Rhymes and plays with words. Participates in reading of familiar books and poems. Connects books read aloud to own experiences with guidance.	Reads books with simple patterns. Begins to read own writing. Begins to read independently for short periods (5-10 minutes). Discusses favorite reading material with others. Relies on illustrations and print. Uses finger-print-voice matching. Knows most letter sounds and letter clusters. Recognizes simple words. Uses growing awareness of sound segments (e.g., phonemes, syllables, rhymes) to read words. Begins to make meaningful predictions. Identifies titles and authors in literature (text features). Retells main event or idea in literature. Participates in guided literature discussions. Sees self as reader. Explains why literature is liked/disliked during class discussions with guidance.	Reads simple early-reader books. Reads harder early-reader books. Reads and follows simple written directions with guidance. Identifies basic genres (e.g., fiction, nonfiction, and poetry). Uses basic punctuation when reading orally. Reads independently (10-15 minutes). Seeks reading materials independently. Learns and shares information from reading. Uses meaning cues (context). Uses sentence cues (grammar). Uses letter/sound cues and patterns (phonics). Recognizes word endings, common contractions, and many high frequency words. Begins to self-correct. Retells beginning, middle, and end with guidance. Discusses characters and story events with guidance.	Reads easy chapter books. Chooses, reads, and finishes a variety of materials at appropriate level with guidance. Begins to read aloud with fluency. Reads silently for longer periods (15-30 minutes). Uses reading strategies appropriately, depending on the tex and purpose. Uses word structure cues (e.g., root words, prefixes, suffixe word chunks) when encountering unknown words. Increases vocabulary by using meaning cues (context). Self-corrects for meaning. Follows written directions. Identifies chapter titles and table of contents (text organizers Summarizes and retells story events in sequential order. Responds to and makes personal connections with facts, characters, and situations in literature. Compares and contrasts characters and story events. Makes inferences from the text when reading with guidance.
Bridging	Fluent	Proficient	Connecting	Independent
Reads medium level chapter books. Chooses reading materials at appropriate level. Expands knowledge of different genres (e.g., realistic fiction, historical fiction, and fantasy). Reads aloud with expression. Uses resources (e.g., encyclopedias, CD-ROMs, and nonfiction texts) to locate and sort information with guidance. Gathers information by using the table of contents, captions, glossary, and index (text organizers) with guidance. Gathers and uses information from graphs, charts, tables, and maps with guidance. Increases vocabulary by using context cues, other reading strategies, and resources (e.g., dictionary and thesaurus) with guidance. Increases vocabulary by using context cues, other reading strategies, and resources (e.g., dictionary and thesaurus) with guidance. Demonstrates understanding of the difference between fact and opinion. Follows multi-step written directions independently. Discusses setting, plot, characters, and point of view (literary elements) with guidance. Responds to issues and ideas in literature as well as facts or story events. Makes connections to other authors, books, and perspectives. Articulates ideas and opinions about literature in discussion with peers and teachers. Uses reasons and examples to support ideas and opinions with guidance.	Reads challenging children's literature. Selects, reads, and finishes a wide variety of genres with guidance. Begins to develop strategies and criteria for selecting reading materials. Reads aloud with fluency, expression, and confidence. Reads silently for extended periods (30-40 min.). Begins to use resources (e.g., encyclopedias, articles, Internet, and nonfiction texts) to locate information. Gathers information using the table of contents, captions, glossary, and index (text organizers) independently. Begins to use resources (e.g., dictionary and thesaurus) to increase vocabulary in different subject areas. Begins to discuss literature with reference to setting, plot, characters, and theme (literary elements), and author's craft. Generates thoughtful oral responses in small group literature discussions with guidance. Generates thoughtful written responses to literature with guidance. Begins to incorporate new vocabulary from texts into discussions of different subjects. Begins to gain deeper meaning through using inference when reading. Begins to set goals and identifies strategies to improve reading.	Reads complex children's literature. Reads and understands informational texts (e.g., want ads, brochures, schedules, catalogs, manuals) with guidance. Develops strategies and criteria for selecting reading materials independently. Uses resources (e.g., encyclopedias, articles, Internet, and nonfiction texts) to locate information independently. Gathers and analyzes information from graphs, charts, tables, and maps with guidance. Integrates information from multiple nonfiction sources to deepen understanding of a topic with guidance. Uses resources (e.g., dictionary and thesaurus) to increase vocabulary independently. Identifies literary devices (e.g., similes, metaphors, personification, and foreshadowing). Discusses literature with reference to theme, author's purpose, and style (literary elements), and author's craft. Begins to generate in-depth responses in small group literature discussions. Begins to generate in-depth written responses to literature. Uses increasingly complex vocabulary from texts in discussions of different subjects. Uses reasons and examples to support ideas and conclusions. Probes for deeper meaning through inferences in response to literature.	Reads complex children's literature and young adult literature. Selects, reads, and finishes a wide variety of genres independently. Begins to choose challenging reading materials and projects. Integrates nonfiction information to develop deeper understanding of a topic independently. Begins to gather, analyze, and use information from graphs, charts, tables, and maps. Generates in-depth responses and sustains small group literature discussions. Generates in-depth written responses to literature. Begins to evaluate, interpret, and analyze reading content critically. Begins to develop criteria for evaluating literature. Seeks recommendations and opinions about literature from others. Sets reading challenges and goals independently.	Reads young adult and adult literature. Chooses and comprehends a wide variety of sophisticated materials with ease (e.g., newspapers, magazines, manuals novels, and poetry). Reads and understands informational texts (e.g., manuals, consumer reports, applications, and forms) Reads challenging material for pleasure independently. Reads challenging material for information and to solve problems independently. Perseveres through complex reading tasks. Gathers, analyzes, and uses information from graphs, charts tables, and maps independently. Analyzes literary devices (e.g., metaphors, imagery, irony, and satire). Contributes unique insights and supports opinions in comple literature discussions. Adds depth to responses to literature by making insightful connections to other reading and experiences. Evaluates, interprets, and analyzes reading content critically Develops and articulates criteria for evaluating literature. Pursues a widening community of readers independently.