Focus Concepts

Phonics and Morphology:

Suffixes: -er, -est, -ish, -less, -ment

Fluency:

Change their tone of voice as they read dialogue to express characters' thoughts, feelings, and actions.

Main Idea:

Pay attention to what a character says, thinks, feels, and does to gain a deeper understanding of their traits.

Craft and Structure:

Pay attention to what characters say through dialogue and inner monologue to understand the characters and their relationships with each other.

Dear Caregiver,

This week, students will read another type of fiction: folktales. Students continue to develop their understanding of suffixes by focusing on the meaning and pronunciation of the suffixes -er, -or, -ster, -ment, -less, -est, and -ish.

Common Grade 3 Suffixes						
Suffix	Meaning		Examples			
-ment	Act, process.	improve <u>ment</u>	accomplish <u>ment</u>	assess <u>ment</u>		
-er, -or, -ster	Someone or something who performs an action or is something.	act <u>or</u> dump <u>ster</u>	teach <u>er</u>	lead <u>er</u>		
-less	Without or lacking something.	fear <u>less</u>	law <u>less</u>	hope <u>less</u>		
-est	Most.	happi <u>est</u>	fast <u>est</u>	tall <u>est</u>		
-ish	Relating to; quality of.	fool <u>ish</u>	child <u>ish</u>	self <u>ish</u>		
-er	Comparative; more than.	strong <u>er</u>	kind <u>er</u>	smooth <u>er</u>		

They will identify these suffixes in context, then read and understand the words correctly. In addition, students will use their understanding of dialogue, inner monologue, and characters' feelings to change their tone of voice as they read. They will also focus on character traits and characters' relationships. Understanding these literary elements will help students uncover the main idea of a text.







"Brother Deer and Brother Snail Have a Race" retold by E. Angelica Whitmal

Read about how Brother Snail tricks Brother Deer in this amusing folktale.

Home Support

Syllable Division: SAY: "Scoop the vowel types in each word." ASK: "What are the syllable types in the word? How do you read the word?"

elephant	spider	survive
overall	lagoon	lightning

Morphology: SAY: *"Mark the word parts in each word by circling prefixes or suffixes and underlining the base word or root."* ASK: *"What are the word parts in the word? How do you read the word?"*

trickster	embarrassment	hopeless
foolish	fastest	forcefully

Fluency: SAY: "Read the paragraph from 'Brother Deer and Brother Snail Have a Race' aloud like a storyteller. Remember to stop to figure out unknown words and then go back to reread the sentence smoothly."

Tired of hearing Brother Deer boast, Brother Snail said, "Brother Deer, I

think I'd like to race you." The other animals looked shocked and Brother

Deer began to laugh so hard that he almost fell into the lagoon. "Oh, boy,

there will be no living with Brother Deer after this race," said Elephant.