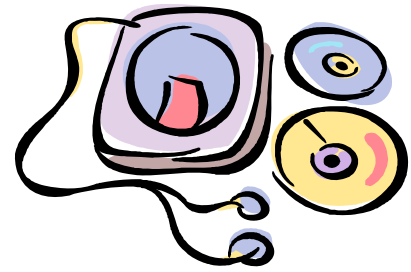


Audio Book Program



Dear Parents,

Our class is excited about a program we are using called Literature Circles. In a format similar to a Book Club, students select books they want to read and form groups according to those choices. We love the program, but one challenge we face is the fact that some students want to read books that are too difficult for them to read alone. There's an easy solution to the problem, but I need your help! Many of the books have audio materials available for purchase, and if I can obtain CDs or audio cassettes for these books, everyone will be able to experience success in their groups. Unfortunately, these materials are often quite expensive and our school does not have the funding to be able to purchase all the audio books we need. I prefer to buy CDs because they are easier to use and more durable than cassette tapes, but they are quite expensive. Most audio books are between \$15 and \$30 for a set of CDs.

You may be wondering if audio materials actually improve reading skills or just help students keep up with their Literature Circle groups. The good news is that when students read their books while they listen, audio books improve vocabulary, reading comprehension, and fluency. No matter what age, most kids love to listen to great stories. In addition, students who struggle with reading are often able to experience the joy of reading a really good book for the first time!

Because of the clear benefits of audio books, I'm setting up an Audio Book Fund for our class. If you, or someone you know, would like to make a donation, you may send cash or a check to me and I will add it to our fund. I'll use the money to buy items needed for our audio book program, such as CDs, portable CD players, batteries, and headphones. Any amount would be appreciated. You can feel confident that your donation will help students in our class improve their reading skills and learn to love reading. Thanks for your support!

Sincerely,