

## Title 1 Tip

### **CAFÉ Strategy: Tune in to interesting words and use new vocabulary in speaking and writing**

Dear Families,

As your child is **progressing through the year, we would like to update you with another CAFÉ strategy to reinforce at home.** CAFÉ is an acronym that stands for **C**omprehension (I understand what I read), **A**ccuracy (I can read the words), **F**luency (I can read smoothly and understand what I read), and **E**xpanding vocabulary (I know, find, and use interesting words). The strategy introduced is a part of the expanded vocabulary portion of the CAFÉ Menu.

When children learn to tune in to interesting words, they build word awareness and the understanding of words. This leaves them with “thinking power” in their brain to comprehend and make meaning of what is read. Have you ever heard a new word, looked it up, and then repeated it often to remember it? Students who tune in to interesting words expand their vocabulary by focusing on these new words and their meaning. By looking for words that are interesting and unique, children not only increase their vocabulary, but they also enhance their comprehension. A child must have multiple exposures to a word in order for it to become a part of his/her vocabulary.

#### **How to help your child with the expanded vocabulary strategy at home:**

1. When your child is reading or you are reading to your child, ask your child to find 3 interesting words. Have your child write these words down and talk about the meaning of these words. See if anyone in your family is able to use the words in a sentence.
2. As always, modeling is a wonderful way to spark interest in children. When you are reading a magazine, newspaper, or book, tune into an interesting word and discuss it with your child. Explain that even adult readers **tune into interesting words** to better understand text.

Thank you for your continued support!