

# FOCUS ON FOUNDATIONS

Building the foundation for academic success



## Reading Foundations

Reading courses will begin each class with targeted lessons on specific comprehension skills using short fiction and non-fiction passages. The second half of every class is spent reading real books together, as students learn to apply their comprehension skills to literature.

### Level A

Students will focus on mastering phonics and sight words. Beginning comprehension skills of identifying topic, character, setting and plot are taught through read-aloud books.

### Level B

Students will master identifying the main idea, facts vs. opinions, author's purpose, and answering questions about details. They will prove their comprehension through reading short chapter books while tracking plot, character and setting.

### Level C

Students will learn how structure influences meaning as they master the text structures: chronology, compare/contrast, cause/effect, and problem/solution. They will explore themes and how ideas can be connected to each other through studies of chapter books.

### Level D

Students will master their interactions with reading passages as they learn to track an author's use of reasons and evidence, use text evidence to back up their own claims, and integrate information from multiple sources to draw their conclusions. Students will be challenged to interact with nuanced literary themes by reading classic short fiction.



*Our classes allow students to grow at their own pace, students can move through the courses as quickly or as slowly as they need. Some students may fly through the levels, while others may camp in a level for a long time to really master a skill!*