Maybrook Elementary School, Valley Central

Maybrook teachers put together packets that explain what literacy instruction looks like in their school. This excerpt is from a slide presentation that was used in a coaching session and clearly shows how teachers focus on students’ individual interests and needs. (From Fountas & Pinnell).

Conferencing

The teacher takes notes during conferences to document students’ progress and to plan future minilessons.

During this time the teacher may:
- Listen to students read their entries aloud
- Find out what kind of help the writer wants
- Talk with students about specific aspects of their writing
- Help students decide what they want to say
- Provide feedback
- Re-teach skills taught during mini lessons
- Teach necessary new skills
- Reinforce a writer’s strengths
- Give writers new ways of thinking