

# Key Terms to Know

**EARLY LITERACY SKILLS:** Concepts that emerging readers practice to learn how to read. They include: Learning the letter names, letter sounds, vowel sounds, how to blend three-letter words, phonics rules, and sight words.

**FIRST POSITION:** The word in the upper left hand corner of the list. This is where we always begin each day.

**PRETEST:** An activity used to discover which words, if any, a student already knows on a list of new concepts. We use it each time the child begins a new list.

**THE WORD OF THE DAY SHUFFLE:** A quick and easy teaching strategy used to help a child learn a new word while reinforcing words already mastered.

**WORD OF THE DAY:** The next word in sequence on a list the child has not mastered. This word becomes the focus word while doing The Buster Shuffle.

**THE TWO-MINUTE SESSION:** The total time period our volunteers work with a student. It consists of giving The Pretest or conducting the Buster Shuffle.

**SIGHT WORDS:** A research-based list of words most commonly found in print. These words make up the majority of text encountered by primary students and are key to developing fluency and comprehension. Some of the words follow standard phonics rules, but many do not.

**WORD LISTS:** The sight words in our books appear on Word Lists of ten per page.

**IMMEDIATE RECOGNITION:** Our final key term, and one of the most important of all, is *Immediate Recognition*. When a child can read a word quickly and without hesitation we circle that word. The circle is our seal of approval that the child can now read the word without sounding it out. (When children can read words quickly both the rate of fluency and comprehension improve.)