**Overview of the Topics We Will Cover in AIS - 1st Quarter**

Unit 1: Our Positive Associations with Literacy

* Looking at how the brain works
* Discovering our learning styles
* Figuring out new vocabulary; playing with words
* Reviewing genres, from picture storybooks to current events articles
* Becoming active readers with strategies for success

Unit 2: The Power of Writing - Write at least the first two

* “Letter to Mrs. Gennosa” introducing yourself
* “Thanksgiving Letter” to someone who has guided you
* “Commendation Letter” about a favorite product

Unit 3: Understanding the Question – Answer Relationship

* In the Book/In My Head QARs
* Right There/Think and Search QARs
* Author & Me/On My Own QARs

**Grading:** You will get a “P” for passing each quarter, but you and I will keep track of your progress. Everyone is unique. Some will complete more than others, but I expect everyone to do his/her personal best. Grading will be based on the following:

50 % Effort/Participation: Progress checks with writing, participation in class discussions, focus on class activities, striving to do your best.

50 % Notebook Check: At the end of the quarter, you will turn in your notebook. All final drafts and first drafts should be in this notebook.