

## JUNIOR GREAT BOOKS

In our enrichment groups we use the **Junior Great Books** program. This program brings high-quality literature and student-centered discussion to students while providing a framework for practicing reading comprehension, critical thinking, and writing.



The **Junior Great Books** program uses a method of reading and discussion known as **Shared Inquiry**. This distinctive approach to learning enables teachers to foster a vibrant environment in which children learn the habits and strategies used regularly and naturally by good readers, thinkers and learners. Through attentive questioning, teachers are able to serve as partners in inquiry with students, helping them to work together to discover a story's meaning. The process reaches its fullest expression in **Shared Inquiry** discussion, where teachers and students think and talk about an *interpretive question* – a question about the story that has more than one good answer that can be supported with evidence from the story.

The sequence of Shared Inquiry activities encourages students to develop the habits of effective readers and thinkers: to read closely, think deeply about what they have read, and listen and respond to their classmates.