**Start Smart Reading**

**First Grade Evaluation Strategy**

Students will begin the Start Smart Reading Unit with individual AIMSWeb benchmark assessments in the areas of fluency, letter sound identification, and letter naming. After entering scores into the AIMSWeb data base, small flexible groups will be developed to target individual student learning needs and set up progress monitoring schedules as determined by scoring guidelines. Students will be given the same type of probe for each area at the end of the unit to determine if they are ready to continue with the first grade reading curriculum or if further assistance through Response to Intervention is needed to attain basic literacy skills. Likewise, students will be given an individual sight word assessment in the form of a word list at the beginning and end of the unit. The general education teacher, intervention specialist, and Title One teachers will be used to conduct individual pre and post assessments in these areas. Throughout the unit students will be given informal, short-cycle assessments to determine need for assistance in small, flexible groups and/or re-teaching in the whole group setting. Short cycle assessments will be a combination of paper and pencil tasks as well as through observation at centers and whole and small group instruction.

Writing assessments will be in the form of a student writing portfolio that demonstrates student progress from drawing and writing (driting) to forming simple sentences. Sentence writing will be graded using a teacher created writing rubric.