Reading Success

Begins at Home!

By:
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You, as a parent, are your child’s first teacher. You have the most important job an individual will ever undertake - providing for your child’s emotional, spiritual, physical, and intellectual growth.
Because spoken and written language is a basic tool of communication and education, the ability to use it well is one of the most important skills a parent can foster in his or her child.
Reading is a crucial foundation upon which a youngster’s language development is built.
Teachers have known for years that children whose parents spend time reading to them (and with them) at home, do better in school than those whose parents have NOT read to them.
“Whatever their origins, reading and writing difficulties have a large learned component. They limit achievement in school learning. They get worse if untreated and many pupils get further behind their classmates over time even when they receive available treatments.”

Reading Recovery: A Guidebook for Teachers in Training, Marie Clay, p. 7
Does reading aloud to a child for 30 minutes per day make a difference?

Yes!
Feed me a story!
If daily reading begins in infancy, by the time the child is 5 years old, he or she has been fed roughly 900 hours of brain food!

Reduce that experience to just 30 minutes a week and the child’s hungry mind loses 770 hours of nursery rhymes, fairytales, and stories.
A kindergarten student who has not been read to could enter school with less than 60 hours of literacy nutrition.

No teacher, no matter how talented, can make up for those lost hours of mental nourishment.
Why is it so important to read to a child?

Reading to a child fosters:

• oral language
• vocabulary development
• early reading behaviors
• thinking and questioning skills
• bonding with a parent/adult
The parent/adult reader will model:

- appropriate reader behaviors
- smooth phrasing and fluency
- good oral expression
What else will children learn from watching and listening to a parent/adult read to them?
Early Concepts About Print:

Book Handling Skills

- locate the front cover of a book
- understand that the print on the page contains the message (not the picture)
- understand the difference between words and pictures
Directional Behaviors

- understand where to start reading on a page
- read the left page before the right page
- read the words left to right
- “return sweep” to the left (if there is more than one line of print on the page)
How do I do a really great job of reading to a child?
BEFORE READING:

• Sit side by side or with the child in the adult’s lap, so that the child can easily view the book.
Cover of the book:

- talk about what the child sees on the cover
- make predictions about what might happen in the story
- read the title to the child - “The title is ______________.”
Picture Walk:

• look at the pictures in the entire book in sequential order

• discuss what the child sees in the pictures

• make predictions about what might be happening in the story

• reinforce left to right by pointing and looking at the left page, then the right page, etc.
When Reading to the child:

- Parent/Adult should smoothly track print with one finger as story is read aloud to the child. (Adult will be modeling left to right progression and return sweep of the printed message in the book.)

- Parent/Adult should read with appropriate expression, phrasing, and fluency.
• Share your enthusiasm and excitement about reading

• Read lots of different materials to your child, such as books, magazines, comics, etc.

• Stop and ask questions, think about what might happen next, etc.
The 5 P’s of Tiger Pride

• Prepare
• Pause
• Prompt
• Praise
• Promise
Handy Helpers

√ the picture

Go back and get your ready.

Look for chunks.

??????
Does that make sense? Would we say it that way?

Think about the story.
## THE RELATIONSHIP AMONG TIME SPENT READING, READING ACHIEVEMENT, AND VOCABULARY ACQUISITION OF FIFTH GRADERS

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Percentile Rank on Standardized Reading Test</th>
<th>Minutes of Independent Reading Outside of School Per Day</th>
<th>Estimated Exposure to the Number of Words Per Year</th>
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You have the power to turn your child into a lifelong reader!
Reading to your child is a gift. As you read, as you discuss, you help create an opportunity for a better tomorrow.
Thank you for being here for your child!