

Dear Parents/Guardians,

As partners in your child's education, we want to take a moment to emphasize the importance of reading at home, specifically reading together with your child every night. Research consistently shows that reading regularly with children has a profound impact on their academic success and overall development.

Did you know that according to a study published in the Journal of Developmental and Behavioral Pediatrics, children who are read to at least three times a week by a family member are almost twice as likely to score in the top 25% in reading compared to children who are read to less frequently or not at all? This demonstrates the significant impact that regular reading sessions can have on literacy skills.

Furthermore, a longitudinal study conducted by the University of Melbourne found that children who were read to frequently during their early years not only had higher literacy scores later in life but also showed greater emotional resilience and social skills. These findings underscore the importance of reading not just as an academic exercise but as a fundamental building block for overall well-being.

Here are some suggestions for making reading a nightly ritual with your child:

- Set aside a specific time each evening for reading together. Whether it's before bedtime or after dinner, consistency is key.
- Choose a quiet, comfortable spot where you and your child can snuggle up with a good book.
- Let your child choose the books they want to read. Encouraging their interests fosters a sense of ownership and excitement about reading.
- Engage your child in the story by asking questions, making predictions, and discussing the characters and plot.
- Encourage your child to read aloud to you. This not only helps improve their reading skills but also boosts their confidence and fluency.

Remember, reading together should be a fun and enjoyable experience for both you and your child. Don't worry about reading perfectly or finishing every book in one sitting. The most important thing is to spend quality time together, exploring new worlds and ideas through the magic of books.

We encourage you to make reading a priority in your daily routine and to take advantage of the countless benefits it offers. Together, we can help your child become a confident and proficient reader.

7 BENEFITS OF DAILY READING FOR CHILDREN

- READING TO YOUR CHILD DAILY WILL HELP THEM DEVELOP BETTER VOCABULARY AND COMMUNICATION SKILLS.
- READING TO CHILDREN STIMULATES THEIR CREATIVITY AND IMAGINATION
- READING TO CHILDREN HELPS FOSTER A LIFELONG LOVE OF READING
- READING STORIES TO CHILDREN IS A GREAT WAY TO TEACH LESSONS AND IDEAS.
- READING TIME IS A WONDERFUL TIME TO BOND WITH YOUR CHILD.
- READING TO CHILDREN HELPS THEM UNDERSTAND THE WORLD AROUND THEM.
- READING STORIES TO YOUR CHILD CAN HELP THEM LEARN HOW TO DEAL WITH THEIR FEELINGS AND EMOTIONS.

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Student "A" reads 20 minutes each day	Student "B" reads 5 minutes each day	Student "C" reads 1 minute each day
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3600 minutes in a school year	900 minutes in a school year	180 minutes in a school year
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1,800,000 words



90th percentile

282,000 words



50th percentile

8,000 words



10th percentile

By the end of 6th grade Student "A" will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student "B" will have read only 12 school days. Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary? Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?

(Nagy & Herman, 1987)