

DEPARTMENT OF SPECIAL EDUCATION

September 2015



IMPORTANT :

- ◇ 9/7 LABOR DAY (NO SCHOOL)
- ◇ 9/17 PROGRESS REPORTS
- ◇ 9/21 PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE (SECONDARY SCHOOLS)
- ◇ 9/22 PARENT TEACHER CONFERENCE (ELEMENTARY SCHOOLS)



- ◇ 10/12 Columbus Day
- ◇ 10/27 Report Cards
- ◇ 10/31 Halloween



WHEN YOU READ TO YOUR CHILD

When you read to your child you are not just reading a story. You are first off creating a bond with him/her. You child will have the feeling of being loved and getting attention that helps them to grow smart. Reading will promote communication between the parent and child. Books teach your child about relationships,

situations and personalities, and what is good and what is bad in the world he lives in. Fantasy books provide material for his imagination and free play. Fairy Tales fascinate children, and help them distinguish between what is real and what is not. When you read to your child, he learns to understand cause and effect, logic, and learns the con-

sequences of what is right and what is wrong. Surround your child with books. Keep them where he has access to them at any time. Reading is the key to your child's future.

READING MATTERS

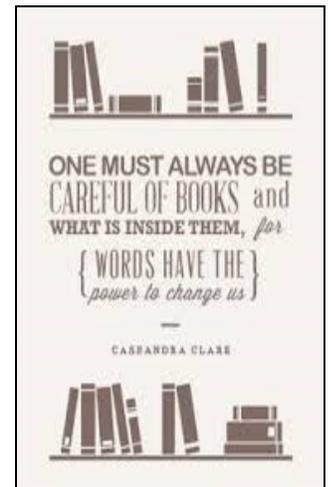
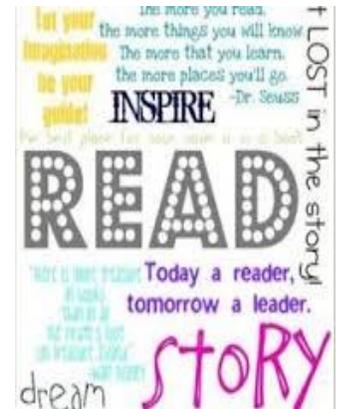
Reading is one of the most important traits our children develop. Reading to your child has many benefits and has the power to boost your child's learning potential.

Reasons you should read to your child:

- *A stronger relationship with you.* Instead of being seen as a chore or a task, reading will become a nurturing activity that will bring the two of you closer together.
- *Academic excellence.* Numerous studies have shown students who are exposed to reading before preschool are more likely to do well in all facets of formal education.
- *Basic speech skills.* By listening to you read, your child is reinforcing the basic sounds that form language.
- *The basics of how to read a book.* Children aren't born with the knowledge that text is read from left to right, or that the words on a page are separate from the images.
- *Better communication skills.* By witnessing the interactions between the characters in the books you read, as well as the contact with you

during story time, your child is developing valuable communication skills.

- *Mastery of language.* Early reading for toddlers has been linked to better grasp the fundamentals of language as the approach school age.
- *More logical thinking skills.* Reading helps children grasp abstract concepts, apply logic in various situations, recognize the cause and effect and utilize good judgment.
- *Acclimation to new experiences.* As your child approaches a major developmental milestone or a potentially stressful experience, sharing a relevant story is a great way to help ease the transition.
- *Enhanced concentration and discipline.* Along with reading comprehension comes a stronger self-discipline, longer attention span, and better memory retention.
- *The knowledge that reading is fun.* Kids who are exposed to reading are much more likely to choose books over video games, television, and other forms of entertainment as they grow older.



Reasons to Read

It relieves stress.

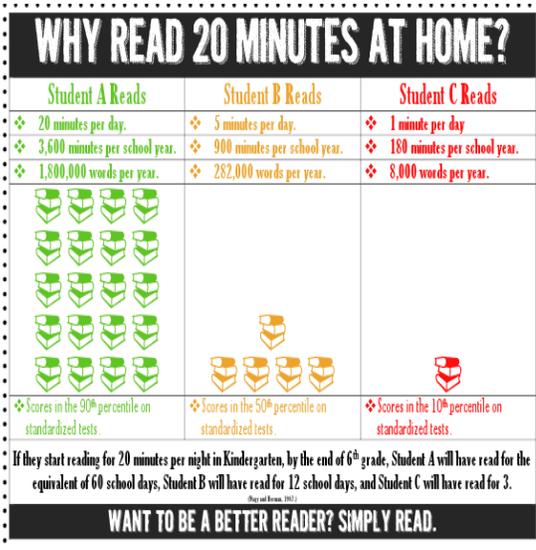
One of the many things about reading is that it becomes an amazing stress reliever. Although it seems difficult to find time to sit down and read we should try our best anyways. A few hours absorbed in a book helps us forget about all my troubles for awhile. Books can take you to new places. One day you'll find yourself strolling along the streets of Paris and another day you might be walking through the corridors of Hogwarts. Reading essentially gives your mind a vacation. Pick a book that you know will relax you. After reading, you may feel more relaxed and more prepared to take on any challenge that comes your way.

It's educational.

The best way to learn is to read. There are hundreds of book that will teach you anything you want to learn. Books contain so much knowledge that waits to be released. Gabriella Hunter, a senior in high school, says "With reading you can self teach and self discover. You can essentially educate yourself through reading." Struggling with the English, Reading, and Writing sections of the ACT or SAT? Read a book. Reading is a great way to improve your writing and your vocabulary. Reading teaches people about different cultures and different ideas. When we read about different characters involved in different scenarios we become better at understanding people and situations. Reading helps us gain insight into people's minds. Ryan Tsao explains that reading, "gives me [an example of] other people's views and ideas." We learn a lot about how other people look at the world through reading.

It expands your mind.

Reading opens a window to other worlds. Imagination and creativity are both improved through reading. A book starts out like a blank canvas that writers paint with their words and ideas. Anything becomes possible in a book. Reading can give you new ideas and help you think outside of the box. Story sharing has been a tradition for centuries among every culture. Books are a continuation of that tradition. Open your mind by reading a book and let your imagination run free. Reading is truly an essential activity with many benefits. Next time you find yourself with nothing to do, try picking up an interesting book.



READING
gives us
SOMEPLACE
to go when
we have to
STAY where
we are

SEPTEMBER

Birthstone: Sapphire

Flower: Morning Glory

National Chicken Month

All American Breakfast Month

National Rice Month



OCTOBER

Birthstone: Opal/Pink tourmaline

Flower: Calendula

National Dessert Month

National Seafood Month

National Pretzel Month

National Popcorn Popping Month

Attendance in Education

The Importance of School Attendance Research has proven that there is a high correlation between school attendance and academic performance and success, while absence from school is often the greatest single cause of poor performance and achievement.

Why is it so Important to attend every day?

- ◇ Learning is a progressive activity; each day's lessons build upon those of the previous day(s).
- ◇ Reading the material and completing work independently does not compensate for the loss of insight gained during class discussion or the loss of competency acquired through explanation or supervised drill.
- ◇ Many classes use lectures, discussions, demonstrations, experiments and participation as part of the daily learning activities, and these cannot be made up by those who are absent.
- ◇ Regular student participation in daily classroom activities plays a significant role in a student's school success.

Are there other benefits to my child?

- ◇ Students with good attendance records generally achieve higher grades and enjoy school more.
- ◇ Having a good education will help to give your child the best possible start in life.
- ◇ Regular school attendance patterns encourage the development of other responsible patterns of behavior.
- ◇ Students who develop an "on the job" attitude toward school will be more desirable to future employers.

What are the risks of frequent absences?

- ◇ A child who does not attend school regularly will be unlikely to keep up with the work.
- ◇ The more students miss school, the lower their grades; the lower their grades, the less they want to stay in school; the less they want to stay in school, the more likely they will drop out of school.
- ◇ Students who miss school are more likely to be at-risk for anti-social or criminal behavior.

What can parents do to help?

- ◇ Parents must model the value of education, including the importance of regular attendance.
- ◇ Make sure that your child goes to school regularly and arrives on time-you will establish a good habit that will carry through life.
- ◇ If your child starts missing school, work with the school to put things right. Make sure your child understands that you do not approve of him/her missing school.
- ◇ If your child is ill or must miss school for some other reason, contact the school immediately. If you ask for homework, make sure your child completes it. I
- ◇ Do not expect the school to approve of shopping trips during school hours.
- ◇ Whenever possible, arrange family vacations during school holidays so that children miss as little school as possible.
- ◇ Take an interest in your child's school work and be involved in the school as much as possible-your child will value school more if you do.

Who else benefits from good school attendance?

- ◇ Other students: less classroom time is spent reteaching and reviewing for students who have been absent.
- ◇ Teachers: lesson plans are more likely to be completed when all students are present. Teachers must sometimes postpone tests or other important activities until all students are present.
- ◇ The office staff: less time is spent calling to verify reasons for absences.
- ◇ The school and district: school districts with a low absence rate receive more state funding than those with absence rates higher than 6%.

Remember, regular attendance is necessary for success in school. Help ensure that your child has the best opportunity for success by making sure he/she is in school every day.

Logan County Schools maintains the following Attendance Policy Guidelines.

1. Students are allowed 10 unexcused absences all school year.
2. Students are allowed 5 parent notes for the school year.
3. All excuses for the absences must be presented to the school by 10 school days following the absence.
4. Any parent note after the 5 parent note limit has been reached will be considered unexcused.
5. Students are permitted unlimited doctor's excuses throughout the school year.
6. All missed work during an absence is the responsibility of the student.
7. Students must follow county tardy and early release procedures.

THINK POSITIVELY
and
EXERCISE DAILY
EAT HEALTHY
WORK HARD
STAY STRONG
BUILD FAITH
WORRY LESS
READ MORE
BE HAPPY

Emphasize Healthy lifestyle Habits

It may seem like common sense that learning involves the body as well as the brain, but your child's eating, sleep and exercise habits may be even more important than you think. If children with learning disabilities are eating right and getting enough sleep and exercise, they will be better able to focus, concentrate, and work hard.

Exercise—Exercise isn't just good for the body, it's good for the mind. Regular physical activity makes a huge difference in mood, energy, and mental clarity. Encourage your learning disabled child to get outside, move and play. Rather than tiring out your child and taking away from school-work, regular exercise will actually help him or her stay alert and attentive throughout the day. Exercise is also a great antidote to stress and frustration.

Diet—A healthy, nutrient, rich diet will aid your child's growth and development. A diet full of whole grains, fruits, vegetables, and lean protein will help boost mental focus. Be sure your child starts the day with a good breakfast and doesn't go more than 4 hours between meals or snacks. This will keep his or her energy levels stable.

Sleep—Learning disability or not, your child is going to have trouble learning if he or she is not well rested. Kids need more sleep than adults do. On average, preschoolers need 11-13 hours per night, middle school children need 10-11 hours, and teens and preteens need from 8-10 hours. You can help make sure your child is getting the sleep he or she needs by enforcing a bedtime. The type of light emitted by electronic screens (computers, iPods, iPads, portable video players, etc.) is activating to the brain. So you can also help by powering off all electronics at least one hour before lights out.

SPECIAL EDUCATION



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