

















#AACPSReadWithMe & #AACPSPowerUpRead

Engaging School Readers – Tips for Families

Family members are able to influence their children to become interested and skillful readers. Encouragement from parents, grandparents, guardians, and other adult role models helps students make improvement to becoming engaged, successful readers.

Some suggestions on how families can support reading at home:

-  Create a quiet, special place for your child to read. Keep books, magazines, and other reading materials available.
-  Help your child see that reading is important. Set a good example by reading books, newspapers, and magazines. Talk about what you are reading.
-  Join a family Book Club.
-  Start a family book club in your own family. Invite others to “join.”
-  Shared reading. You are never too old for a read aloud. Read to your child and/or ask your child to read to you.
-  Be non-judgmental about the type of text your child chooses: cartoons, instructions for video games, fantasy, sports, or fashion magazines can be the key to unlocking a lifetime of reading pleasure. Reading skills will increase as interest develops.
-  Provide access to magazines based on interests to encourage frequent reading.
-  Visit bookstores, public and school libraries regularly to find materials for pleasure reading.
-  Take the Tech/TV Turn-off challenge. Turn the television, computers, smart phones, and other electronic devices off at least once a week and read as a family. Discuss what everyone is reading.
-  Let your child see you reading directions to complete household tasks such as assembling items, recipes for cooking, etc. This will allow your child to see the connection of reading to real life.
-  Encourage your child to read for 15 minutes before going to sleep each night.
-  Take reading materials with you on the go. Encourage your child to read while riding in the car, waiting at the doctor’s office, passing time between activities.
-  If your child has an assigned reading, try to read the same book so you can have meaningful discussions about the text. If your child is struggling to complete an assigned reading, try taking turns listening to him/her read, and reading aloud to your child, checking frequently for understanding.
-  Encourage your child to re-read material to gain a better understanding. This is particularly true for non-fiction material (textbook content) and material written above grade level.
-  Write notes to your child - recognizing his/her accomplishments. A little praise can go a long way!
-  Reward progress with a trip to the bookstore to select a special book.

📖 Consider purchasing or borrowing an electronic reader (i.e. Kindle, Nook, etc.). E-readers have become very popular and may entice your child to read more often.

📖 Read poetry and novels in verse.

📖 Emphasize the importance of reading as a life-long habit and encourage its frequent practice.

📖 Reading for 30 minutes daily can improve comprehension and increase achievement.

📖 Reading and discussing one article a week builds background knowledge which supports comprehension.

○