How To Help Your Child

There are many fun ways to practice reading and encourage your child to participate in reading related activities. Here are a few:

1. Set aside a special time and place. Maybe offer a snack or have soft music playing.
2. Go to the library weekly to choose new books.
3. Sign your child up for library activities.
4. Read with your child. Have fun laughing and talking over the text.
5. Organize a book club of his/her friends and have special discussion “parties”.

READ! READ! READ!

Why read daily?

Daily reading provides students opportunities to go on adventures and learn new information. They can travel around the world, back in time, or escape into other worlds all from their favorite reading spot.

Research has shown that children improve their reading by reading often and a lot. Reading a wide range of types of books helps students build background knowledge about people and the world. That will help children connect to subjects in school.

Reading over the summer helps them maintain the skills they’ve been taught, as well as their reading level.
Play the 10 BOOK CHALLENGE

Think about the kinds of books you enjoyed reading this school year. Were they mysteries, action stories, books about real people, places, or times? Then, look at your Challenge Record Sheet. What other types of books, poems, magazines, or information would you like to read about this summer?

Plan

Think

Make a plan. You can either decide on the categories first and then go find the books at the library, store, or right in your own home OR you may already have a book you want to read. So go ahead and read it, and then decide which category it fits in.

Read

Find a good spot to settle down in and READ, READ, READ! THINK! THINK! THINK!

Think

Finish your book and be sure to record its title and author on the Challenge Record Sheet.

Record

Go back to your plan and choose another book or category and repeat...read, think, record. Keep going. Can you read 10 books? 12? 15? More?

Repeat

Return your checklist and celebrate!

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Q&A

How do I know if the book is just right for my child?

Have your child read a few paragraphs to you at different parts of the book. If he/she can read easily with few or no mistakes then ask them to tell you what the paragraph was about and what they think the book may be about. If they have a reasonable idea, let them challenge themselves to read the whole book.

What kinds of books might I encourage my child to read?

Children love series books. Encourage your child to read many books in a series. This will help him/her become a stronger reader, practicing their skills while revisiting favorite characters, problems, or settings. They get to notice whether or not their characters react the same way or if they grow and change.

Encourage your child to read nonfiction or informational texts so they can learn about the world around them. Studies have shown that children like to read and learn more about topics they studied in school, as well as about hobbies, sports they play, or stars and athletes in their world.

Where can I find books?

Danbury Public Library has many free programs, hundreds of books, and state of the art technology to inspire readers of all ages.

Online sources:

http://www.nutmegaward.org/elementary
http://www.goodreads.com/list/tag/elementary
http://www.ala.org/alsc/sites/ala.org.alsc/files/content/compubs/booklists/summer/1704

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Return