



Hello Meadowbrook Families,

It was wonderful seeing so many families enjoying books together at Literacy Night last night. Reading is an important skill and one of the skills that we use in every subject, as well as outside of the school daily. It's important to build the reading habit from an early age and it's amazing how much students enjoy reading with parents, even as student's get older. Here are some tips for developing good reading skills and habits.

1. Make reading fun and incorporate it into your daily routine from an early age. Use your finger to follow along when children are first beginning to read. It's also important for children to see adults in their life reading and modeling an enjoyment for reading.
2. When first learning to read, choose books that have repeated lines and rhyming words and encourage the student to read with you. Pointing to the words as you read also encourages them to learn concepts of print.
3. When reading with your child, ask them about what they are reading. You can ask questions about characters, settings, or plots and can compare to stories that they have already read. How do the characters feel? How would you feel? What do you think will happen next? This helps children feel connected to what they are reading and help adults know if students understand what they are reading.
4. When children come to words they do not know, help them use strategies to figure out words. Do they see something familiar in the word? Can they look at pictures or guess what the word may be? Don't rescue them right away. The bookmark below has some great strategies that may be helpful.
5. Reading opportunities are everywhere. By turning on the subtitles on the television, we can provide additional reading opportunities.
6. Reading includes more than reading books. Look at children's interests and you may be able to find a magazine or information online to encourage reading.
7. Make sure that you have many books available at your child's level. Your teacher can help you find books that may be interesting and are at just the right level.
8. Most importantly, make reading fun. Choose a fun book to read together and take turns reading. Reading is like exercise, increased reading opportunities lead to stronger reading skills..

Here is a free strategy bookmark to help when students get stuck on a word.

https://www.lcps.org/cms/lib/VA01000195/Centricity/Domain/5632/stategy_book_mark.pdf

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