

# Reading at Home

# Agenda

- ◆ Independent Reading:  
Predictable challenges &  
possible solutions
- ◆ Graphic Novels
- ◆ Reading Aloud



**1.  
Independent Reading: Predictable  
Challenges & Possible Solutions**

# Predictable challenges & possible solutions

Concern	Possible Solution
I wish my child would read more. I wish my child <i>liked</i> to read more.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Let them choose their own books and pursue interests</li><li>● Develop rituals for reading</li><li>● Drink and snack nearby</li></ul>
I think my child is starting and abandoning books a lot	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Independent reading book from school travels back and forth</li><li>● Scan the book - do you think it will be too difficult or uninteresting?</li><li>● If you find a book they really love, find another similar book (series)</li><li>● Attach books to everything your child loves, i.e. sports - Alfred Slote or Matt Christopher</li></ul>

Concern	Possible Solution
I wish my child would read different, better, more advanced books.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Let them read what they want!</li><li>● Many books appropriate for 2nd, 3rd, and early fourth grade readers are series books</li></ul>
Maintaining the gist of the story	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>● Read the 1st and 5th chapter of a chapter book. Helps both child and parent to get the tune of the text, leaves reader hooked. You may want to read later chapters to stay connected to the drama</li><li>● You read a chapter, they read a chapter aloud and then they read a chapter silently to themselves.</li><li>● Take a few moments and skim the sections missed, skim through the text and talk about what is happening in a short way</li><li>● Nudge them to talk back to texts</li></ul>

## In search of your next great read?

If the book is part of a series... →	Then choose another title from the series
If the author has written other books... →	Then, select another book by the same author
If a different author is recommending that book... →	Then give <u>that</u> author a try
If other readers in the class have read that book... →	Then, ask them for recommendations
If you have access to the internet... →	Then, research ‘readers who read this book also bought...’
If you are looking for current authors/books... →	Check out your local bookstore & library

## **2. Graphic Novels**

## Graphic Novels

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- ◆ Comics & graphic novels offer young readers a sense of engagement & ownership like no other format
- ◆ In addition to being compelling fiction and nonfiction stories, graphic novels help kids develop their visual literacy skills, something that is imperative in today's media rich society.
- ◆ A prose version of a book can seem intimidating due to its length. Incorporating illustrations and panels helps readers gain a better and more visual understanding of the text, dialogue & context!



**2.**

**Reading Aloud:**

**Falling In Love With Books**

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*“Listening to an adult model fluent reading increases students' own fluency and comprehension skills” (Trelease, 2001),*

*“as well as expanding their vocabulary, background knowledge, sense of story, awareness of genre and text structure, and comprehension of the texts read” (Wu & Samuels, 2004).*

## The why

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- ◆ Older kids still treasure read- aloud time with you
- ◆ Builds vocabulary
- ◆ Gives you insight to their challenges
- ◆ They'll associate rest & relaxation with you

## Setting the mood.

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- ◆ Make it feel special
- ◆ Create predictable opportunities for reading everyday
- ◆ Reading times are comfortable,intimate & warm occasions

## Choosing texts

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- ◆ Pursue your family's tastes
- ◆ Consider finding time to read poems & fairy tales, historical fiction, magazine articles, reference books, riddles, letters, comics
- ◆ Picture books are great too!
- ◆ Consider reading biography, science fiction, nonfiction, fantasy, and historical fiction

## Authors many third & fourth graders will enjoy

Judy Blume	Eleanor Estes	Ursula Le Guin ( <i>Catwing Series</i> )
Jeffrey Brown	John Fitzgerald	Beverly Naidoo
Clyde Bulla	John Gardiner	Barbara Robinson
Ann Cameron	Ruth Stiles Garrett	Robert Newton Peck
Matt Christopher (sports books)	James Howe	Jerry Spinelli
Beverly Cleary	Johanna Hurwitz	Gloria Whelan
Pam Conrad	Robert Kimmel Smith	
Roald Dahl	Dick King-Smith	

## Authors many upper-elementary students will enjoy

Avi	Madeleine L'Engle	Cynthia Rylant
Natalie Babbitt	C.S. Lewis	Elizabeth Speare
Lynne Reid Banks	Lois Lowry	Mildred Taylor
James & Christopher Collier	Patricia MacLachlan	Theodore Taylor
Paula Fox	Walter Dean Myers	Larry Yep
Jean Fritz	Scott O'Dell	Jane Yolen
Jean Craighead George	Katherine Paterson	
Brian Jacques	Gary Paulsen	




## Tips for talking about books

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- ◆ Talk about how we would feel had the story happened to us
- ◆ Trust what we do as readers: pay close attention to your own thinking and making this thinking public.
- ◆ Nudge: “Join me in wondering what will happen next in a story”
- ◆ Have a book talk if you think your child has lost their grip of the story: Start reading with a recap



# WHY READ 20 MINUTES AT HOME?

Student A Reads	Student B Reads	Student C Reads
❖ 20 minutes per day.	❖ 5 minutes per day.	❖ 1 minute per day
❖ 3,600 minutes per school year.	❖ 900 minutes per school year.	❖ 180 minutes per school year.
❖ 1,800,000 words per year.	❖ 282,000 words per year.	❖ 8,000 words per year.
		
❖ Scores in the 90 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 50 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.	❖ Scores in the 10 <sup>th</sup> percentile on standardized tests.

If they start reading for 20 minutes per night in Kindergarten, by the end of 6<sup>th</sup> grade, Student A will have read for the equivalent of 60 school days, Student B will have read for 12 school days, and Student C will have read for 3.

(Karr and Elvason, 2007)

**WANT TO BE A BETTER READER? SIMPLY READ.**

# THANKS!

**Any questions?**

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