

Dear Parents,

I found some important information on the internet, and I wanted to share it with you! The topic is reading aloud to children.

Did you know. . .

**Repeated readings of the same book** support your child in learning language and learning to read. When you read the same book many times, your child can learn the story easily. Then the child can begin to focus on pictures, text, sentence patterns, and other story parts. Many children try to re-tell a story to you, to another child, or even to their pets or dolls - this is great practice for them!

**Reading a wide variety of books** is also good. Reading many different books helps children to develop vocabulary and learn about the world. This is especially helpful to children with severe disabilities, who may have more trouble exploring their world. So read stories, poems, folklore, ABC and counting books, informational books, and anything that you think your child might enjoy.

**When to read?** Anytime is a great time to read! Keep books in the car and in a tote bag to take to doctor's offices. At bedtime, try to read at least one book that is a 'favorite' that you read over and over (and over and over!), and one book that helps your child learn new ideas and new words.

**Enjoy!** The most important tip is that reading should be \*fun\* for you and your child. It isn't necessary to quiz your child, or make this a 'testing' time. If you love to read, and make reading time special for the two of you, your child will have a jump start on learning to read!

Cordially,