WHAT DO GOOD READERS DO?

GOOD READERS...

- Skim the book – look at headings, chapter titles, and pictures
- Think about what they already know about a subject before they start reading
- Take notes, highlight interesting facts and circle words they don't know
- Self correct – if something doesn't make sense or sound right, they go back and try again, look up words, guess at words, and use the context of the story to understand the meanings of words
- Ask questions as they read
- Make predictions about what will happen next
- Create mental images of what they are reading
- Identify the main points, the plot, the moral and what is important
- Read with a purpose and understand what they read
- Select appropriate reading material

More than anything, good readers have been read to by others and enjoy reading. If you notice that your child is struggling, have him or her evaluated immediately. Learning to read can be hard for some kids so don't make it harder by waiting too long to get help. Be supportive, praise their efforts, and have plenty of books available that are at a level which allows a successful reading experience.

YOUR CHILD BEING A GOOD READER STARTS WITH YOU!
IT'S NEVER TOO LATE...

1. Read together every day – establish this habit as early as possible.
2. Read it again and again if that's what your child wants – reinforcement and repetition helps your child learn.
3. Play sound and word games – tongue twisters, songs, and rhymes stimulate language and listening.
4. Read with expression – do the voices and vary your tone and speed.
5. Take turns reading out loud – this builds fluency which in turn builds speed.
6. Discuss while you read – the characters, the setting, what might happen next, how it will end, the moral.
7. Tell your child how much you enjoy reading – make sure they see you reading for pleasure.
8. Talk about books and tell stories – a great way to build background knowledge and vocabulary.
9. Be a fan – build their confidence with praise and by being a good listener.
10. Make books special – make regular trips to the library and give books as gifts.

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