



Reading Awareness Month

April 1st, 2010

The importance of learning how to READ:

"The goal of reading instruction is to give students the skills, strategies and knowledge to read fluently and understand various texts for purposes of enjoyment or learning, whether reading a book, magazine, sign, pamphlet, email message or Internet site"

Research indicates that reading to children early in their lives leads to success both in school and in life. This is because early reading is instrumental in helping young people develop vocabulary knowledge, letter recognition and phonemic awareness, which is described as "significant predictors of a child's ability to do well in school". Many children experience difficulties learning to read because they didn't develop the basic blocks of language during their early years.

Many people do not realize the amount of concepts that are required to teach a child how to read. We take for granted the fact that we have the ability to read. In order to learn how to read, we must be taught basic skills such as identifying letters by name, learning the common sounds of letter, blending sounds represented by letters into words, identify sight words, syllables, and learning rhyming words.

WEBSITES FOR TEACHING READING:

www.readingrockets.org

<http://www.succeedtoread.com/index.html>

www.starfall.com

<http://www.gamequarium.com/readquarium/index.html>

Some components of learning to READ:

- **Phonological Awareness:** Knowing and demonstrating that words can be broken down into smaller units (syllables, words, phonemes).
- **Phonemic Awareness:** Focusing on the individual sounds in words. * Most related to success in learning how to read.
- **Sound Blending and segmenting words by syllables and sounds.**
- **Teaching letter- sound correspondence.**
- **Sight Word:** A word for which students can recognize the pronunciation and meaning automatically.
- **Phonic Analysis:** Identifying and Blending Letter-Sound Correspondences into words.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Story Time				
		School Book Fair		
				Bring in your Favorite Book
	Open Essay Night			
			Make your own book	