

Fostering a Love of Reading...

Who can foster a love of reading continued?

Besides fostering the love of reading at home by;

- reading books that you loved as a child
- talking about the book as you read together
- having a daily reading time
- making connections from your life to the book you are reading with your child
- exposing children to different genres of literature
- downloading or purchasing audio books or ebooks
- frequenting the public library
- modelling the love of reading in your family life

Children receive fostering a love of reading also through their teachers, school libraries, public libraries, internet apps, bookstores and etc.

Teachers build the love of reading using three steps; matching books to a student's ability, making time for reading and by having a diverse classroom library. An important job is for them not only to teach students to read but to make them love to read.

School Library Learning Commons librarians work with teachers to provide books required to assist the teachers to foster the love of reading. Our library offer books of all genres and levels for students to borrow, two bookfairs a year, book talks to show new book, read aloud stories, motivation awards, author visits, teaching and showing of ebooks, access to all books through programs to allow books to go home and etc. During our book fairs, I am hearing more often that parents is buying a book for a birthday present for their child to give instead of toys. Great idea!

Reading provides a critical foundation for success in school and in life. School teachers and librarians need to read with confidence, pleasure and satisfaction to model fostering a love of reading.

Sylvan Lake public library, sylvanlibrary.prl.ab.ca has many literacy events, books and ebooks to borrow, free membership for children under 12 and an informative website. Their summer reading program is an excellent themed program filled with fun varieties of literacy skills. Check out their website or go for a visit to a public library near you.

Also Red Deer Public Library has the above available in French and English. Check out their site for French and English ebooks online www.rdpl.org.

The internet provides free apps or ones you can purchase in order to read or listen to online stories. My favourite is a free site www.storylineonline.com. Actors model and read well known books on this site with great enthusiasm. The Scholastic.ca site offers many services from purchasing books to reading challenges and clubs. Websites from Disney and Pixar offer literacy challenges on their sites and their movies provide books of interest that can help with fostering the love of reading. Only use sites that are familiar to you and there are many, worthwhile free literacy sites. Visit author sites such as; Robert Munsch, Barbara Reid, David Shannon etc. for many ideas. Pinterest even lists books recommended for any themes or just fun reading.

NEXT... Do we need pictures in a book?