

A Love of Reading: A lifelong investment!

Families can support their child's education by inspiring a love of reading.

Schools develop the intellectual process of reading. Students explore stories and texts that foster connections between themselves and others in the world around them. Parents can reinforce this literacy learning with the LOVE of reading. By encouraging your child to read and demonstrating your own enthusiasm for reading, you can establish habits and attitudes that last a lifetime.

Reading skills are the foundation of success in education. When children discover the joy of reading, they begin to question and explore life beyond their immediate experiences. This develops their intellectual curiosity and understanding of the world around them.

Families can support children to become joyful readers by reading to them and by encouraging them to read on their own. Research shows reading to children is the best way to help them become literate. To encourage a love of reading, you can:

- **continue to read to your child** long after they can read to themselves;
- **set aside time to read to your child every day** or encourage them to read at bedtime;
- **be a role model and show your own enthusiasm for reading** to yourself as well as to your child;
- **capitalize on your child's interests** (dinosaurs, trains, mysteries);
- **reread your child's favourites;**
- **show that reading is a pleasure;** don't force it or make it a punishment.



Reading to children gives you a quiet time together, filled with warmth, safety and love. These feelings also become connected with stories and books. The benefits will be long lasting!