



Dear Parent,

Hello and welcome to Read for My School! We are extremely excited to offer you a new and innovative approach to community fundraising that combines our love for reading while teaching the importance of giving back to your school.

Read for My School is a digital fundraising solution that empowers your school to create and promote **high impact**, **high value school** read-athons. Fast to setup and easy to use, Read for My School provides an education-based community fundraising approach that aligns to what is being taught in school while providing a fun and engaging way to motivate children to read!

Your Read for My School Quick Start Guide provides you with all you need to become an active supporter for your school read-a-thon. Whether you tracking your child's reading minutes or fundraising with friends and family, with **Read for My School, it's as simple as 1, 2, 3!**

So what are you waiting for? Let's starting reading and fundraising today!

Sincerely,





CREATE YOUR PROFILE

Creating a **Read for My School** reader profile is quick and easy to setup. Just follow the steps below so that your reader is ready to go when your read-athon starts!



CREATE YOUR STORY

Take a few minutes to write a personal message on your **My Fundraiser** page so you can share your love of reading with friends and family!



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START READING

Take some time to pick up some great books and start tracking your reading sessions daily on our app!



SHARE YOUR STORY

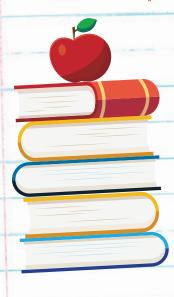
Reach out to friends and family to share your child's love of reading as well as raise pledge donations for your school fundraiser!

Did you know that the average Facebook user has over 300 + friends? Sounds like a great place to spread the word to generate donation support!



Cool tip!

Books, Books, Books!



Visit your local library, bookstore, and buy books as gifts so that your child understands how much you value books. Have special places for the books in your home that invite reading such as bookshelves, nightstands, and book baskets near a cozy chair or couch. Consider making a book nook in your child's bedroom with good lighting, pillows, a basket of their current favorites. Add sticky notes and a dictionary to mark challenging words. less.



Make time to READ!

While we all have hectic schedules as parents, make time in your busy day and create daily rituals that work for your family schedule. Make family reading time a priority. Encourage your child to have books on hand to read "on the go" as you carpool, go to appointments, or have down time in your day. Reading independently, reading with a partner, or listening to a parent read aloud all promote essential reading skills.





Model Good Reading Habits

Reading books, magazines, recipes, blogs, or newspapers in front of your child sends a powerful message to your child. If you are excited about reading and openlyengage your child with good reading habits, your child is likely to share your enthusiasm and follow your lead.

SPARK Interest!

Find ways to encourage your child to continue to read. Expose them to different genres of books. Some kids prefer non-fiction while some only love fantasy. Your child may be more excited by a graphic novel rather than a traditional chapter book. Give lots of options or encourage your child to find a favorite author, series, or genre that naturally sparks your child's interest.

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Choose "Good Fit" Books

A good fit book is important part of developing independent reading skills, confidence, and

fluency. Find a "good fit" book by having your child read the first page in the book aloud. If there are more than five words they cannot pronounce or understand in context, it may not be

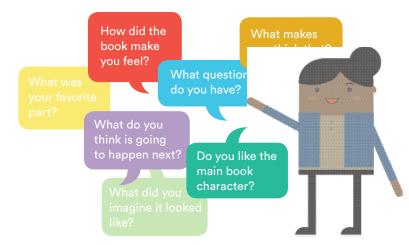
a "good fit" book. Try this exercise before choosing a book at the library or bookstore to encourage your child to choose books they can read independently.



Read Aloud!

Read aloud to your child everyday. Have fun with voices and make the book come alive for your child. Have your child read and re-read favorite books aloud to siblings, grandparents, and friends to develop confidence and fluency. Try using digital apps that allow face to face interaction to encourage reading aloud. Tools such as Facetime and Skype allow your child to connect and read aloud to family and friends that live near and far.





Talk About It

Talking about what your child reads as well as everyday life activities is crucial to reading comprehension. Ask specific questions and discuss new interesting words and make connections to literature. Ask what they liked or disliked, what happened that was unexpected, or what they think may happen next. This can be done after reading a book, as well as after a school day, visiting a new place or participating in an extracurricular activity.



Encourage

Show enthusiasm for your child's reading! When your child is struggling with an unfamiliar word, or understanding the meaning of the text, this can be an opportunity for improvement and teaching a reading strategy that can help him to gain more fluency or understanding. If the text is frustrating you or your child and/or affecting the meaning, it may not be a "good fit" book for your child. Consider reading it aloud to your child or choose a new book that is a good fit for them to read independently.

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Get Involved

SCHOOL

Attend parent-teacher conferences, open houses and keep an open communication with your child's teacher. Know grade level reading skills and understand how your child is progressing related to grade level expectations. Get involved in your local schools and ask your child's teacher for how best to help your child improve their reading skills at home.

Word Play

Use words games, poetry and songs to help your child more aware of rhymes, word patterns, and root words. Making connections between spoken language and written language will improve grammar, spelling, and vocabulary skills as they improve their reading fluency and comprehension skills.



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