

Reading Aloud with Older Readers... Are They Ever Too Old?

Grades 4-6

Reading
Aloud



Increase in
Oral & Written
Language



Listening &
Reading
Comprehension



Developing
Successful,
Lifelong Readers

Tips for Read Aloud Success

Some of the best times with your child may be when you share a story. Get the most out of reading aloud with these easy tips:



Begin Brief: Start with 10 minutes at first, and then build reading stamina by gradually increasing the time. Consider reading a book with short chapters to maintain engagement and celebrate your accomplishments. A few recommendations: *Call it Courage* by Armstrong Sperry, *Captain Grey* by Avi, *The BFG* by Roald Dahl.

Change-it-Up! Share the read aloud experience by taking turns selecting the genre. This is a great way to learn about your reader's reading interest. Don't hesitate or discourage the following considerations for reading: magazine or newspaper articles, letters, brochures, instructions, literature, or prose.

Reminisce: Revisit favorite read alouds (chapter books and picture books) from your childhood or your child's. Rereading selections can increase a reader's fluency rate.

Read-to-me AND I'll-Read-to-You: Share the reading with your reader. Reading aloud offers readers the ability to increase their attention, fluency rate, vocabulary awareness, and comprehension (both reading and listening comprehension).

Reasons Reading Aloud is Important for Older Readers:

- ★ Reading aloud builds excitement about reading – motivating older readers to read various genres on their own.
- ★ Readers hear strong models of good English – improving their reading, speaking, listening, and writing skills.
- ★ Listening to stories helps develop imaginations – boosting creativity and thinking skills.
- ★ A reader's reading comprehension level does not catch-up to a reader's listening comprehension level until about eighth grade.
- ★ Older readers can explore books, authors, and topics that are new to them – expanding their choices for books to read themselves.
- ★ **Possibly most important...**Students today are busier than ever and are immersed in technology. Is it possible that a student's opportunity to engage in language has decreased? The read aloud selection chosen may spark a conversation...causing students to engage in discussion. A question for you to ponder...Is oral language becoming a lost art?