

September 7, 2012

Dear Parents,

Thank you so much for all the help that you are offering your children learning to be great readers. Here is a brief review of some of the things you can do to help at home. These tips will help habitualize the skills your child is learning.

**Things that you can do to help at home:**

1. Read **TO** your child every day. This can be ANY book of interest.
2. Let your child read to **YOU** every day. Watch him or her as he/she reads. Book choices for these books should be familiar books. These are books that have been read before and can be read at about 95% accuracy or above. Encourage pointing with finger to keep place as well as making the first sound of an unfamiliar word.
3. Encourage your child to use picture clues at "the tricky parts". Don't worry that they are not reading because they're looking at the pictures. They still need to use the print to determine if the word is alligator or crocodile, kitten or cat, etc...
4. Enjoy the reading time you spend together. Make it fun. Use funny voices or act it out. If it becomes frustrating, put down the book and send a note. My goal is to develop a love of books and reading in the children with whom I work.
5. **Words to Learn** bags can be found in your child's Reading Bag. This is a group of words that your child has "been tricked by" at some time. Please review these words frequently.
6. **Cut-Up Sentences** come from books that your child is learning to read. They help him or her to gain mastery over high frequency words, visual scanning ability and conventions (periods and capital letters).



Remember to look at helpful links that are posted under **Reading** on the Primary School website <http://www.am.dodea.edu/rucker/Primary/index.htm>

Thank you so much for helping. As always, let me know if you have concerns,

**TOGETHER WE CAN!**

