



Literacy Center

Types of Reading

Independent Reading

Students read silently by themselves and at their own pace (Taylor, 1993). The selections must be at students' reading level in order for them to comprehend what they're reading.

Reading Aloud to Students

Teachers use the interactive read-aloud procedure to share selections that are appropriate for students' interest level but too difficult for them to read by themselves (Barrentine, 1996).

Guided Reading

Teachers scaffold students' reading to teach reading strategies (Fountas & Pinnell, 1996, 2001). Guided reading is conducted with small groups of students who read at the same level.

Shared Reading

Students follow along as the teacher reads a selection aloud (Fisher & Medvic, 2000). Primary-grade teachers often use big books-enlarged versions of the selection-for shared reading (Holdaway, 1979).

Excerpt from Language Arts Essentials, by G.E. Tompkins, 2006 edition, p. 87.

Make Reading a Habit

Research shows that children who are read to in their early years are more successful in school.

Make reading a habit in your home, for both you and your child. Seeing parents enjoying a book is a strong image for children.

Each night before bed, read to your child for at least 20 minutes. If the child is learning to read, ask him or her to read to you.

For older children, set 30 minutes aside each night for family reading time when everyone reads. Keep plenty of reading materials available — books, magazines and newspapers. Be sure the material is appealing, and not always another textbook. Let your kids see you reading and they're more likely to pick up the habit for themselves.

Reprinted with the permission of the Utah Education Association. © The Utah Education Association 2007.

