



Dear Parents,

In celebration of *Read Across America Day*, the children (and staff!) enjoyed wearing their pajamas to school today and reading books by Theodore Geisel (a.k.a. "Dr. Seuss"). It is wonderful to see the children so excited about authors and books! *Read Across America* is sponsored by the National Education Association. Here are some tips from their website for raising an enthusiastic, lifelong reader:

- Visit your local library often. Get your children their own library cards. Try a story hour or other free event at the library.
- Check out the local bookstore. A book or gift certificate always makes a terrific gift.
- Encourage older children to read to their younger brothers and sisters. Or have the whole family set aside some time to read together!
- Show your child how people use reading all the time. Read aloud street and store signs, maps, billboards, menus, and labels on packages.
- Set up an area in your home where a variety of reading materials are within easy reach. Encourage writing by including paper, crayons, pens and pencils.
- Subscribe to a children's magazine. Read it with your child every month.
- Carry books to read to your child wherever you go – at the doctor's office, in line at the store, or on a long car ride. (Try audio books!)
- Encourage a love of words by playing rhyming and word games, singing silly songs, or writing poems and stories together.
- Talk about daily activities or tell stories about your family or culture to help children develop their language skills.
- **Read aloud to your child every day**---poems, nursery rhymes, stories, magazine articles. It is the best way to support your child's growth as a reader.
- Let your child see you reading, whether it's the newspaper, a magazine, or the latest bestseller. (Join a book club!) ☺

Our parent book club will be meeting again on March 17th at 10:30. We will be discussing the second half of No-Drama Discipline. We had a terrific meeting, so please consider joining us!

Have a great weekend,

Lynn Herschlein

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