READING BEGINS AT HOME

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Reading is fundamental to success in all other content areas. This skill is not only learned formally in school. Reading with parents builds the foundation for independent reading later on in life. When reading failure begins early, it greatly affects students for life. Kids need to read and they look at their parent as an example. It is said that parents are the first teacher of their children. There are parents that take the time to make reading a positive experience for their children. But there are some parents who do not. Maybe they don’t like to read, or were self-conscious readers as a child.

We have to take more time to make reading an enjoyable experience for our children. One way to do that is with “lap time,” or “lap reading.” Children can crawl up in a parent’s lap or sit beside an adult and share a book. Singing, rhyming, talking about stories are also activities that can be done during lap reading. Lap reading will not only set wonderful literary foundations with your child, it also helps strengthen the bond between parent and child. Reading with your children teaches them about the value of books.

So, Parents, please read with your children every day. Most of you want to start your children off on the right foot to be successful in school. Sometimes, it’s just hard to know where to start. Maybe because you are too busy with other responsibilities at home. Household chores are really exhausting, dinner has to be made, and laundry needs to be folded. But, devoting just an hour or even half for lap reading can mean a lot.

You are the first reading buddy for your child. If we begin at home, children will have the developmental skills they need to read when they come to kindergarten. Written words are powerful – It has the power to change, destroy, create and succeed. Help your child develop love in reading and find joy in every written journey.
References: