

## **Book Trust Family Monthly Resource: Plain Text Version**

This is a plain text version of the Book Trust monthly family resource. Send it to families via ClassDojo so that it can be translated on [ClassDojo Translate](#). Help us to engage as many Book Trust families as possible in building a culture of literacy at home!

### **Book Trust Developing a Culture of Literacy**

#### **This month's focus: Choice**

Research findings suggest that students need to have access to books that they *want* to read.

When students read books of choice, even if it appears too easy or difficult, they are still developing confidence and building their reading identity.

Children may choose to read the same book over and over again. That is okay! This allows them to become familiar with the text and identify sounds and words.

Asking your child questions about what they are interested in and what they feel good at is a great way to start the conversation about choice.

#### **Did you know that 13 minutes of reading each day equals 1 million words read in a year?**

#### **Ask your child questions to get them talking about what they are reading and what they want to read!**

What did you like about this story? What else are you interested in?

How did that make you feel? Why? This is a great question to find other books to read. Maybe the book is a series, maybe it brought up an emotion to read about.

After a few pages ask children to close their eyes as you continue reading. Prompt students to **visualize** the story... **"What do you see?" "What does that look like, sound like, feel like in your mind?"** Creating mental pictures supports comprehension and allows students to make connections with the text.

Include your thoughts about the text. This will encourage and normalize conversation about reading!

#### **Did you know that listening to someone read is a literacy skill?**

#### **What does all of that mean?**

What happens outside of school is essential to your child's reading success. **We are on a mission to empower children to discover the joy and power of reading and create simple steps that you can take.**

Here's the beautiful part: developing and fostering a culture of literacy is simply refocusing the things that you're already doing with your children.

Did you know that telling a story while your child is listening is a literacy skill? Did you know that listening to their older sibling read can help them hear how to fluently read through a story? **Or that listening to someone read in any other language can support English learning? You don't need to be an expert, simply a partner!**

**Does your child love to draw? Have them draw a comic or scenes from the story**

**More ideas**

Let your child choose how they want the story read, you read it all or take turns.

Have your child choose where the story is read.

Let children choose which book they want to read. If they are having a hard time, you can help them narrow it down.

Want to encourage reading during the day? Allow your child to pick a reading snack.

**If reading before bed is difficult, try reading at a different time!**

**Who we are**

We are Book Trust, a national early literacy non-profit. We increase access to high quality books of choice to empower children to discover the joy and power of reading. What does that mean? Well, each month of the school year, your students will choose \$7 worth of books at absolutely no cost to you that they choose. **These books are theirs to keep, build home libraries and share with you.**

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