The Importance of Reading

PARENT UNIVERSITY
How are adolescents doing in reading?
National Assessment of Educational Progress (2015)

- Below Basic: 31%
- Basic: 41%
- Proficient: 24%
- Advanced: 4%
What percentage of 8th graders scored below basic on the NAEP in 2015?

24%
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Ethnicity</th>
<th>Percentage</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>White</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Black</td>
<td>43%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hispanic</td>
<td>39%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Asian/Pacific Islander</td>
<td>17%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>American Indian</td>
<td>38%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Unclassified</td>
<td>22%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The vocabulary perspective

Reading affords opportunities to encounter academic language in ways that oral discussions and lecture do not.
Success builds success!

For years, we've known that the amount of independent reading students do contributes to their reading skills.
According to research...
Success builds success!

Students who read more tend to learn more vocabulary, become more proficient readers, find reading more enjoyable, and thus continue to read more and become ever better readers (Stanovich, 1986).
Success builds success!

Poor readers, on the other hand, tend to read less and lose ground.
Success builds success!

Over time, these differences create a widening gulf in learning.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>%ile Rank</th>
<th>Minutes of reading per day</th>
<th>Words read per year</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Books</td>
<td>Text</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>90&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>21.1</td>
<td>33.4</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>70&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>9.6</td>
<td>16.9</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>50&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>4.6</td>
<td>9.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>30&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>1.8</td>
<td>4.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10&lt;sup&gt;th&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td>0.1</td>
<td>1.0</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

(Anderson, Wilson, & Fielding, 1988)
Reading across different disciplines and genres exposes students to genre-specific writing styles and discourse.
the disciplinary literacy perspective

Reading is a central component of specific disciplines including science (Cromley, 2009), English and Social Studies (Swanson et al., 2015). To be successful, one has to know how to read disciplinary texts.
What do we mean by texts?
What can be hard about texts?
Some of the best custom maps come with resource packs built right into them, like the Vanilla Five Nights at Freddy’s map. This is probably one of the best FNAF themed maps for Minecraft right now. It features wearable animatronic suits, the ventilation ducts the machines use to crawl around the building, and many of the iconic characters including Freddy, Chica, Bugsy and Foxy. It even has little minigames like the FNAF series does between the nights, and you can find the Purple Guy in those minigames thanks to an enderman reskin.
Text factors that make it difficult

- expectations about background knowledge
- figurative language
- technical vocabulary
- issues with cohesion
- academic language (vocab, syntax, etc)
- lack of narrativity
- multiple text structures
Why nonfiction?

One reason reading nonfiction may be so important is that it helps students develop their background knowledge, which itself accounts for as much as 33 percent of the variance in student achievement (Marzano, 2000). Background knowledge becomes more crucial in the later elementary grades, as students begin to read more content-specific textbooks (Young, Moss, & Cornwell, 2007) that often include headings, graphs, charts, and other text elements not often found in the narrative fiction they encountered in the lower grades (Sanacore & Palumbo, 2009).
What can parents do to help?
Suggestions

- Start with 15 minutes a day, 4 days a week.
- Have students read a variety of texts both fiction and nonfiction.
- Read the same book with your child together or read your own book at the same time as your child.
- Put away electronic devices for the 15 minutes of reading time.
- Visit the library on a regular basis, weekly if possible.
- Spend time in the nonfiction science and social studies section.
- Build in some short-term rewards such as time spent together.
In this season of giving...

Give the gift of a lifetime of learning, adventure, curiosity, and success.