

TROY ELEMENTARY SCHOOL LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



January 2026

Reading Buddy Essentials

This pile of books represents just one session of Reading Buddies. Pictured right, are two 5th graders who helped collect the books read between their classmates and their kinder buddies.



Every Friday, pairs of students enjoy this special time dedicated to reading. We are especially proud of our students who go above and beyond to provide extraordinary and meaningful mentoring, like the student pictured holding the flashcards that she made to challenge her reading buddy! What smiles this experience brings, and how rewarding this time can be!



Winter Reading Challenge & Key Benefits of Parental Involvement

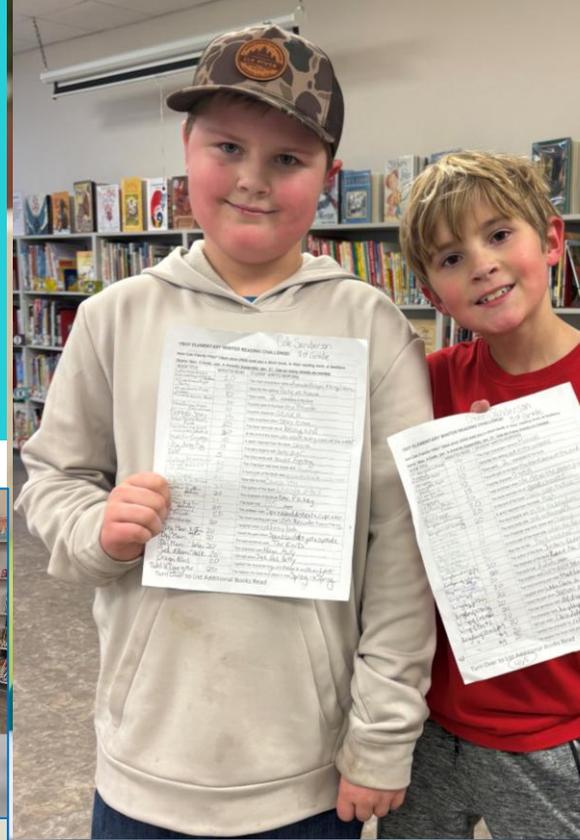
This latest reading challenge was focused on *parental involvement*, with the reading log requesting that, "students read to their guardian prior to bedtime, and that they take time answering one question for each book they read." High parental involvement in reading shows that standardized test scores increased +25 points, reading scores increased +14-15 pts., and general student achievement increased +12-15%.

https://zipdo.co/parent-involvement-statistics/?utm_source=chatgpt.com

Reading Challenge Prizes will be presented at the end of the month assembly.

"At the end of the day, the most overwhelming key to a child's success is the positive involvement of parents."

Jane D. Hull



All-Star Library & Classroom Student Interview

Q: What keeps you motivated to work hard?

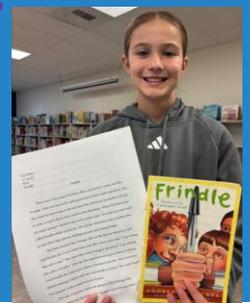
A: "Knowing that I'm doing good in school!"

Q: How do you make sure you're getting the most out of class time?

A: "I try to make sure I'm listening to the teacher, following along when we're reading, and taking time answering assignment questions."

Q: Is there anything in particular that helps you be successful?

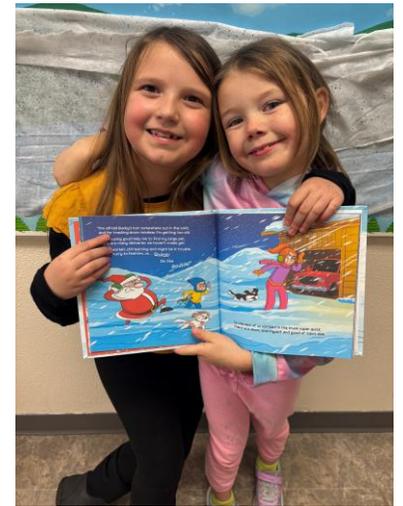
A: "My parents always check my back pack and school work, help me study spelling, and give me extra help when I need it."



Library Book Swap Adds Extra FUN!

A library book swap during library time sometimes confuses the students at first; why in the world they would be choosing a book for someone else? It didn't take long for students to discover that choosing a book for someone else really could be fun, and that this social activity was actually quite exciting! In some cases, students encountered books that they might not have chosen for themselves, but were open to trying.

You can see by their smiles, that the Library Book Swap might just have strengthened something other than reading; like the connections that the book recommendations brought between students! That in and of itself, was truly worth a library visit!

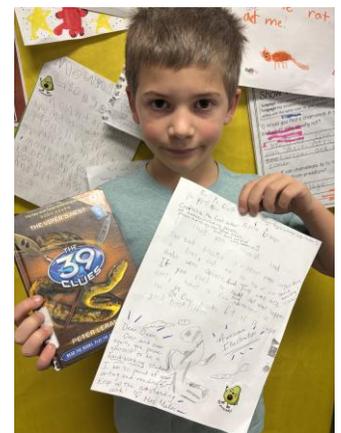


Making Time for Library Book Reports

Making time for one or two book reports on library day continues to be a hit with our students because it celebrates reading in ways student genuinely enjoy!

The goal is to foster a reading culture, and recommendations from classmates often triggers book selections for their peers as well. The book summaries are like mini storytelling sessions, and illustrations are encouraged too.

Ask your student to write a summary to share at home, and enjoy a delightful conversation!



Non-Fiction Table Displays

Library tables are often set up with themed displays such as fiction or non-fiction to make it easy and inviting for students to find something they love.

Non-fiction books with a variety of topics including animals, with simple facts and text were chosen specifically for their grade level. Books with bright photographs capture attention, and students are always eager to learn and explore new topics.

Making reading a choice-filled and visible activity creates a desire to read, and that's what the library is all about!



Read Aloud Daily: Spend time reading together every day, even if it's just for 10-15 minutes. This helps with vocabulary, comprehension, and fluency.

Encourage Phonics Practice: Help students learn letter sounds and how letters come together to form words. Play rhyming games or simple word-building activities.

Talk About Stories: After reading, discuss the story together. Ask questions about the plot, characters, and what they liked or didn't like.