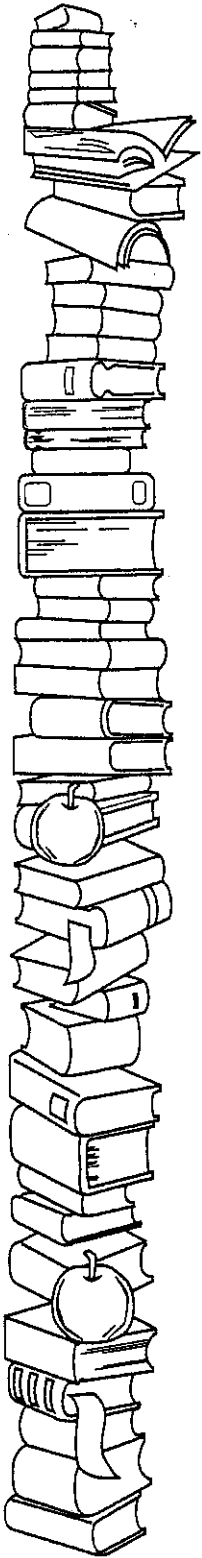


READ THE BOOK



- Encourage students to read to others—younger children, siblings, students in a literacy or English as a second language program, shut-ins or seniors.
- Buy books for their sheer beauty—art books or books with beautiful illustrations. Display them proudly and keep them in view on a coffee table or shelf.
- Model good book treatment. Use book jackets and bookmarks; and repair worn books. Treat books as valued and dear friends and your children will do the same!
- Buy books for writing, such as pretty diaries and cloth-bound journals. Create your own diaries using blank pages, coil binding, and an attractive cover to encourage writing. Teach children to reread what they have written for reading enjoyment.
- Create interesting stories for children to read. Stories about themselves are always of interest to children! Use a scanner or photocopies to include pictures.
- Encourage the e-mail habit. This is reading and writing at its finest. It is immediate feedback to your letters and incredibly inexpensive.
- Share books you loved as a child with your children. Treat them as treasured memories, old friends, and precious property. From your modeling, children will learn the right way to treat books.
- Give children the chance to meet a real author, hear him or her read a book, and purchase an autographed copy of a book!
- Encourage your children to write short stories and books. A word processor program greatly helps in the editing process. Children are never too young to learn how to use the computer for writing.
- Help children find funny books and books about experiences they have had. They should see books as entertainment and as a help in troubled times.
- By example, teach kids the pure pleasure of curling up with a good book!
- Children learn by what they live. If adults read and value books as priceless objects, they, too, will learn to value reading and cherish the time spent reading. If they are exposed to adults who read only out of necessity and who choose the television over reading, it should be of little surprise that they, too, make these choices. Reading is a nurtured habit. Availability of enjoyable reading material and models who read for enjoyment and who share their reading experiences with children will encourage any child to catch the reading habit.