



FAMILY LITERACY WEEK

Family Literacy Day is a national awareness initiative created by ABC Life Literacy Canada in 1999 and held annually on January 27 to raise awareness of the importance of reading and engaging in other literacy-related activities as a family.

Taking time every day to read or do a learning activity with children is crucial to a child's development. Even just 15 minutes a day can improve a child's literacy skills dramatically, and can help a parent improve their skills as well.

Help us CELEBRATE on January 27 and everyday!



Want to learn more about what you can do with your family to promote 15 minutes of fun with literacy? Visit: abclifeliteracy.ca

DAILY ACTIVITIES AT SCHOOL

Monday, Jan. 26 – Book Mark Day – create a book mark that reflects on what you enjoy about reading.

Tuesday, Jan. 27 – Book Swap - Students are encouraged to bring a book from home to swap with someone else.

Wednesday, Jan. 28 - T-Shirt Read.

Thursday, Jan. 29 – Drop Everything and Read Day.

Friday, Jan. 30 – READ IN. There will be an **assembly at 1:00** in the gymnasium in which classes will participate by doing something involving Literacy. Afterwards classes will be paired up to read to each other.

CONTESTS & PRIZES

1. MAKE A BOOKMARK

Make a bookmark that reflects a love of reading. They will be entered into a draw and one will be picked as the winner. The draw will take place on Friday January 30th.

2. T-SHIRT READ

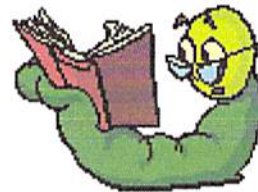
Have your child wear a shirt with print on it (appropriate sayings please). Two winners from each room will be chosen and their name will go into a draw for \$10 gift certificates for the upcoming book fair.

DAY TO WEAR T-SHIRT: WEDNESDAY, JANUARY 28

3. DAILY RIDDLE

We will be looking for clever riddles written and presented by students at announcement times. Get together with friends and see if you can come up with the funniest and most original riddle that can be shared with the school. The trick is to have the answer be a favorite author or character from a book. A winner will be picked from each grade level so get your thinking caps on!

Tips to encourage reading as a family:



Strategies for parents to foster literacy skills in their children and strengthen their own literacy skills along the way:

- The television can be used as a tool. After your child watches a television show or an episode, talk to them about it. Ask them questions like, "What was your favourite part?" or "What was the episode trying to teach the audience?"
- Don't lose sight of the fact that children model behaviour they see. Ensure that your child sees you reading whether it's the newspaper, the mail or the cooking instructions on a frozen meal. This shows your child how important it is to read.
- Sing silly songs using nonsense words that rhyme like "Down By The Bay" or "Willaby Wallaby Woo". Encourage rhyming words and sounds.
- Today's children are influenced by music. Have your child read the lyrics to their favourite song. When your child hears the song, they will visualize the lyrics they read.
- All reading is good reading. If your child is a reluctant reader, allow them to read comics, a graphic novel, a magazine or an instruction manual for their favourite sport.
- When you are in the mall, grocery store or out for a walk, have your child read signs, posters and flyers.
- Families that spend a lot of time in the car can play an audio book.
- Have your child help you make dinner by reading a recipe card.
- Play board games with your child that involve making words or reading instructions on cards.
- Watch a movie that is based on a book. To really enhance critical literacy skills, have your child identify the key differences between the movie and the book.
- Reading aloud helps children develop pace and voice. Have your child read to the family dog, teddy bear or their younger sibling. These are nonthreatening audiences that will help develop your child's confidence.

Developing literacy skills is a task that requires a lot of patience from the parents and the literacy learner. As such, making the process enjoyable for everyone involved can go a long way in alleviating anxiety and opening the doors to developing lifelong literacy skills.

**FAMILY LITERACY DAY:
TUESDAY, JANUARY 27, 2015**

