**READING IS CRITICAL ARTICLE**

**Nightly Reading is Critical for Academic Success**  
How does one become a better student? It's easy! Nightly reading is a wonderful lifelong habit and has been shown by many different educational studies to be a major factor in a student's academic success. Reading provides opportunities for vocabulary growth and continued learning. In an ideal world reading should be enjoyable and hassle free but even if your child is not a willing participant it is important to set aside at least 15-20 minutes a night for reading time. Even if you read to them and they follow along until they are more confident they will benefit. Plus it is a nice way to spend quality time with your child as you end your day.  
Please read this article on why nightly reading is so very important.  
**Why Nightly Reading?**  
   
**"Why Can't I Skip My Twenty Minutes of Reading Tonight?"**  
  
**Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week.  
Student B reads only 4 minutes a night...or not at all!  
  
Step 1: Multiply minutes a night x 5 each week.  
Student A reads 20 minutes x 5 times a week = 100 mins. a week.  
Student B reads 4 minutes x 5 times a week = 20 minutes.  
  
Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month.  
Student A reads 400 minutes a month.  
Student B reads 80 minutes a month.  
  
Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months a school year.  
Student A reads 3600 minutes a school year.  
Student B reads 720 minutes a school year.  
Student A practices reading the equivalent of ten whole school days a year. Student B get the equivalent of only two school days of reading practice.  
  
By the end of 6th grade, if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits, Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days. Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 days. One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance. How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?  
  
Some questions to ponder:  
Which student would you expect to read better?  
Which student would you expect to know more?  
Which student would you expect to write better?  
Which student would you expect to have the better vocabulary?  
Which student would you expect to be more successful in school...and in life?  
  
Which student are you?**  
  
   
**Article borrowed from Mrs. Barth,  
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