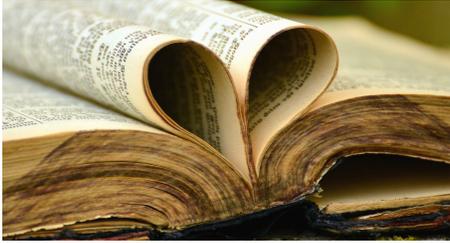## ALL ABOUT READING

Learning to read is not easy. It is not something we are genetically wired to do, like learn to walk. As a parent, your involvement and encouragement, will shape your child's love for reading.

All children need a parent who will: **read to them every day**; **talk** to them about what they are reading; **set aside time** so reading can happen; buy or borrow books, magazines, comic books, or what reading material **they** are interested in; **serve** as a model of reading and interest in books.

With your involvement and dedication, your child can become a reader for life.

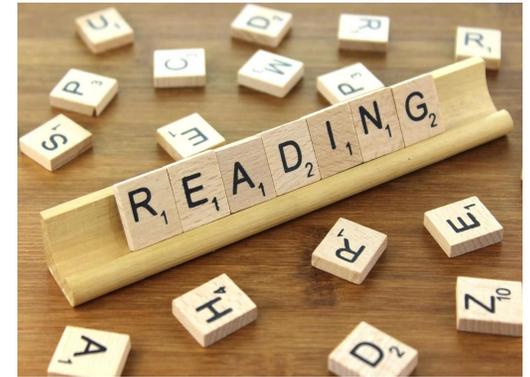I can't imagine a man really enjoying a book and only reading it once.
-C.S. Lewis

Websites and Apps for an avid reader

Reading
IN MIDDLE SCHOOL

- Genre descriptors
- Book suggestions
- Strategies to practice inferencing and summary

Genre descriptors

- **Fiction:** A variety of made-up texts that tell a compelling or entertaining story.
- **Realistic Fiction**: A story using made-up characters and events that could happen in real life. Some events, people, and places may even be real.
- **Myths:** Imagined stories that try to explain the beginnings of the world, nature, or human behavior, and include characters and events that could not happen in the real world.
- **Fairy Tales**: Stories full of magical elements and include characters and events that could not happen in the real world.
- **Fantasy**: A story including elements that are impossible such as talking animals or magical powers.
- **Science Fiction**: A type of fantasy that uses science and technology (robots, time machines, etc.).
- **Folk Tales**: Imagined stories that were handed down over many years and include characters and events that could not happen in the real world.

Book suggestions

[2017 Choice List by ILA - International Literacy Association](#)

[2017 Choice List by Genre](#)

Strategies for inferring & Summarizing

Inferencing and Summary are two very difficult skills for children of all ages to acquire. Some tips to help your child practice inferencing at home include:

- Start practicing inferencing with pictures. For example: show your child a picture of a pail and a towel, and have your child make an inference as in where you might be going.
- Use concrete examples to get them interested. For example: Dress up in a T-shirt from an event such as a charity run, concert, or theater performance. Ask the students what they can infer from your clothing choice.
- Use real life scenarios that your child can relate to. For example: have them watch a commercial of something that they're interested in and have them make an inference of what message the commercial is trying to get across to the viewers.
- Listen to songs with hidden messages and ask your child questions about

- **Historical Fiction**: A fictional story that takes place in a particular time period in the past. Often the setting is real, but the characters are made up from the author's imagination.
- **Fables**: Stories that feature animals or other objects that have human qualities.
- **Mystery**: A suspenseful story about a puzzling event that is not solved until the end of the story.
- **Legends:** Imagined stories that revolve around the actions of a single hero and include characters and events that could not happen in the real world.
- **Tall Tales**: Stories that have grown over time and include a great deal of exaggeration.
- **Nonfiction**: Texts about a certain topic that are factual.

Powell, T. (n.d.). Eduphoria! Retrieved November 30, 2017, from https://www.schoolobjects.com/

2016 Choice List by ILA International Literacy Association

2016 Choice List by Genre

what the artist is trying to express in the song. For example: Skin by Rascal Flatts, in this song the person has cancer but that is never mentioned instead they give clues such as "A girl with no hair" and "treatment".

Some tips to help your child practice summary at home include:

Summarize means make it shorter, just the facts like a reporter!

1. Title and author
2. Author's purpose
3. Main idea
4. 3 key details

Another method to summarize is using these steps:

1. **Somebody**: Who is the character?
2. **Wanted**: What did the character want?
3. **But**: What was the problem?
4. **So**: How did the character try to solve the problem?
5. **Then**: What was the resolution of the story?

Summarizing non-fiction books:

1. **Topic**: Who or what is the text mainly about?
2. **Fact**: What did you learn?
3. **Evidence**: What does the author explain?
4. **Opinion**: What is the most important part?
5. **Explanation**: Why is it important?