

ARDENT
PRESCHOOL & DAYCARE

2019 Read-Aloud Challenge

The Read-Aloud Challenge is for every family at Ardent Preschool & Daycare and its purpose is to encourage all families, regardless of the age of children, to get in the habit of taking time every day to read aloud at home.

Reading aloud not only creates a wonderful time of family bonding and overall love for reading but it also assists in developing a child's brain architecture! From a recently published Wall Street Journal article titled "The Secret Power of the Children's Picture Book" we find the following important piece of information:

Small children's brains have no difficulty registering bright fast-moving images, as experience teaches and MRI scanning confirms, but the giddy shock and awe of **animation doesn't give them time to exercise their deeper cognitive faculties.**

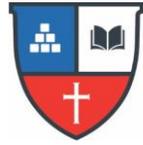
When we take the time to read to our children, we have the opportunity to maximize and expound upon the experience! It is through reading aloud that we can help our children develop those deeper cognitive faculties by introducing the beauty of verbal expression, the love and development of language, as well as the power of curiosity and the many conversations that can develop as we take the time to ask and answer questions while reading a book.

And let's not forget about the opportunities that reading from a physical book present! Children learn patience as a book is read page by page and they also learn that there is order to reading. Snuggled on their parents' laps, children get to help turn pages and point to pictures. It is an active experience, rather than a passive one.

We hope that by participating in this Read-Aloud Challenge, your family will be blessed by the time spent together reading and that books become a treasured item in your home!

Happy Reading!

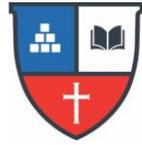
John and Tracy LaBreche



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How to Participate:

1. Use the calendar on the following page to keep track of daily reading. We suggest printing and placing on the refrigerator! If it's in sight, it'll be on the mind!
2. For each day that you are able to read aloud, initial that box.
 - We encourage you to set your own family goals. This could be a time limit (for example, 10-15 minutes before bedtime) or a number of books (2 books after dinner, for example). You know your child(ren) best so create a goal that works well for your family.
3. Be sure to write your family name on the calendar and on March 1st, drop your calendars off in the office of your campus.
 - We will have a celebratory Read-Aloud Challenge party that afternoon during snack time!
 - Families that have read at least 23 days (out of February's 28) will be entered into a drawing to receive a Barnes and Noble gift card (let's build those family libraries!)



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FEBRUARY

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3	4	5	6	7	8	9
10	11	12	13	14	15	16
17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	March 1 st Bring calendar to school	

Family Name: _____