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Promoting Life-Long Literacy...



Director's Notes....

Winter is almost here and Christmas break is right around the corner. This is a great time to take your child(ren) to the library and let them pick out a few books that they can read over break. Books make great Christmas presents as well!

I would like to update you on a few of our programs. We are at the half way point with our Family Literacy Nights (FLN). We have completed 4 events and have had 845 students and family members attend those 4 events. We still have 4 more FLN planned for the 2017-18 school year.

Our Dolly Parton Imagination Library is growing rapidly. We currently have 2,151 children enrolled in the program and have mailed over 47,853 books into our community since November 2014. We should hit the 50,000 book mark

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fund at The Community Foundation for a new program called "Community Books". This program allows us to provide books to community agencies that see at-risk children come through their doors, such as Hope House, Open Arms, City Mission, Chopin Hall, etc. When children come to their agency, they can give each child 5-6 books for that child to keep and take with them. We are very appreciative of this grant and another opportunity for the Literacy Coalition to promote literacy and put more books into the hands of children who need them most.

A special THANK YOU to all those who donated to the Literacy Coalition of Hancock County on Giving Tuesday. We were able to raise an additional \$1,525, including a \$500 Giving Tuesday match from The Community Foundation. If you are interested in making a donation during the holidays to "Give the Gift of Reading", please visit our website at HancockLiteracy.org.

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and get to enjoy some quality time with your family! Happy reading!

Shannon Andersen

Director

Literacy Coalition of Hancock County

419.422.7525 ext. 207



This Holiday season, please give the gift of reading to so many children in Hancock County. The Literacy Coalition of Hancock County is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. We rely on corporate grants and community support to fund all of our programs. Please consider making a donation today.

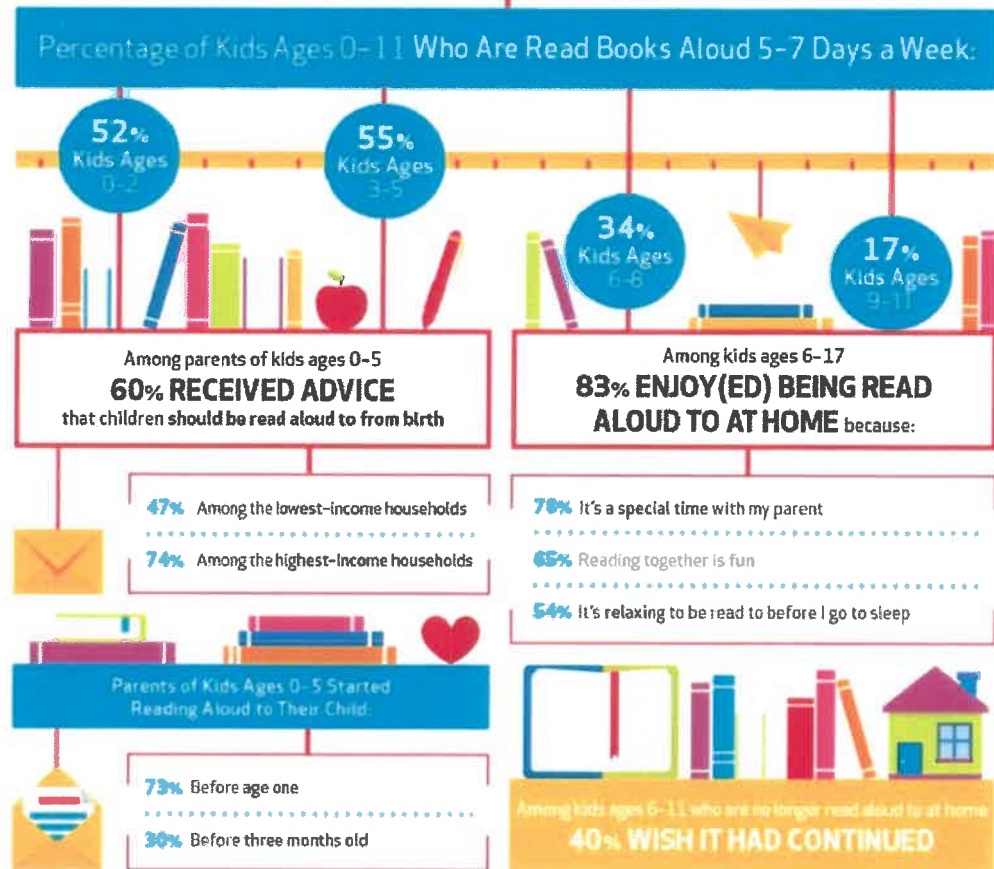
Your donation will help the Literacy Coalition of Hancock County to continue putting books into the hands of children right here in our

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Our programs that are funded through donations and grants are:
 Dolly Parton's Imagination Library
 Family Literacy Nights
 Networking/Community Literacy Forums
 Parent Partners
 Tell-A-Tale

Read Aloud: Start Early & Keep Going



The Kids & Family Reading Report™: Fifth Edition

Results from a nationally representative survey of 2,558 parents and children including 506 parents of children ages 0-5; 1,026 parents of children ages 6-17, plus one child age 6-17 from the same household, conducted August 29, 2014 through September 10, 2014, and managed by YouGov. See the full methodology at scholastic.com/readingreport.



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What Not to Say to Emerging Readers

Through the whole, sometimes long and painful process, it's easy for parents to become impatient with emerging readers. We want our children to feel comfortable and successful when they read, and to love reading. So when kids struggle to sound out every word on a page, insist on reading books that aren't the "right fit" or read a whole page fluently but are unable to recall what they've just read, it's frustrating.

Don't get discouraged! We've listed common mistakes that some parents make, along with better ways to support your early reader. Here's hoping it leads to relaxing read-alouds and stronger readers:

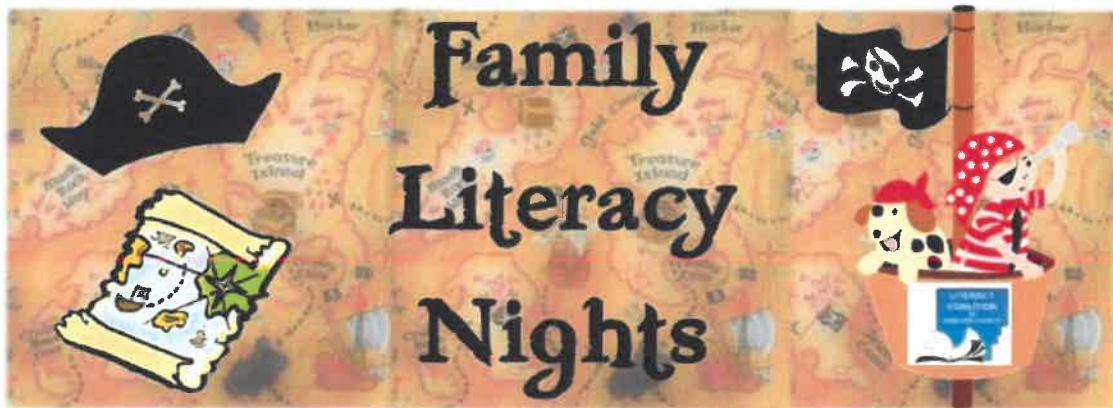
- Do not say, "Stop. Reread this line correctly." If the mistake didn't interfere with the meaning of the text (for example, if it was "a" for "the" or "fine" for "fun"), let it go.
- Do not interrupt your child reading. Ever. You want your child to be comfortable reading. If necessary, make the correction when you read it the next time.
- Do not say, "C'mon, speed up. You have to read a little faster!" Or "Slow down, you're zipping through this!" Instead, model appropriate pacing and fluency.
- Do not laugh. Think about something serious and ugly and breathe deeply until you regain composure.
- Do not say, "You know this." Help break it down for her by asking her if she recognizes parts of the word.
- Do not say, "You're wrong. That says, (insert correct word)." Instead, say *nothing*. As hard as that may be, remain silent. Unless it's a mistake that interferes with the meaning of the text, let it go.

If, however, she made a mistake that alters the meaning, at the end of the page, ask your child to reread the passage carefully. If she reads it incorrectly again, ask her to look at the pictures to help her decode the word or ask her if

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Once you resume reading, ask her on a page she reads correctly if she was correct. This isn't to annoy your child; it's to help her become a better self-monitor. As self-monitors, we're constantly checking and rechecking to make sure that what we read made sense.

As parents, it's important to make our children feel comfortable reading with us—and to *want* to read with us—at home. They need the practice, and they need to know that reading with Mom and Dad is safe, natural and enjoyable.



Family Literacy Nights are coming to our local schools and the theme is Pirates! ARRRRRR!

During each literacy night, children in preschool through elementary school and their parents/care givers will participate in fun reading activities with volunteers. The reading activities are ready and now we need volunteers to help set up, clean up and, of course, to play the games with the children. The games are simple and all the directions and materials will be there for you. The event is from 6:00-7:30 p.m.

Please arrive at least 15 minutes before the start time.

Consider giving a few hours of your time to help children enjoy reading! Volunteer service certificates are available upon request. If you have questions, contact the Literacy Coalition at 419-422-7525.

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*Thank
you*



Thank you to Mariann Dana Younger Fund for creating "Community Books." The program allows the Literacy Coalition to provide books to community agencies that see at-risk children come through their doors, such as Hope House, Open Arms, City Mission, Chopin Hall, etc. When children come to their agency, they can give each child 5-6 books for that child to keep and take with them.



Hancock County Dolly Parton's Imagination Library Statistics

Current Registrations – 2,151

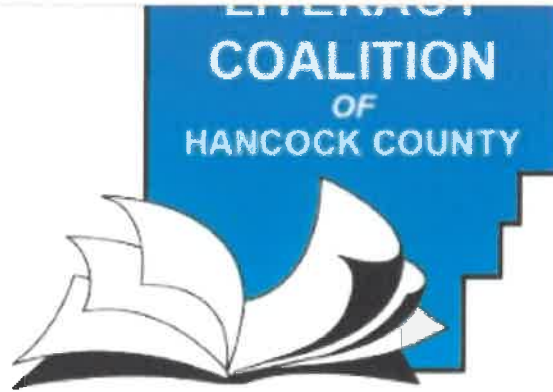
Graduates – 916

Total Children reached since 9/2014 – 3,067

Total Books mailed since 9/2014 – 47,853

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