

**Today a reader, tomorrow a leader.**

**~Margaret Fuller**

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**LAKELAND SCHOOL  
DISTRICT MISSION**

**STATEMENT:**

The Lakeland School District accepts the challenge of preparing students for a rapidly changing world, and provides the opportunity for all students to learn and succeed.

We encourage, promote, and develop life-long learning and educational excellence in a safe, secure, student centered environment.

Our practices and policies are shaped by mutual respect, open and honest communication, ethical behavior, and personal responsibility.

**TJ PRIDE**



*Contents Produced by Karen Gagliardi, Ed.D., Principal Thomas Jefferson Elementary School*



**WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOUR CHILD?**

Research shows that families play an important role in children's reading success. By reading aloud with your children and encouraging them become better readers, better listeners, and better students. You are also helping them build vocabulary and language skills, and helping them gain knowledge about the world around them. When you read aloud is important. And most of all they learn that reading is fun!

**WHAT'S IN IT FOR YOU?**

Reading is more than just making sense of words on a page. It's an adventure! It's a chance to explore new places, discover new things, and meet new people. And it's something you and your children can do together. Reading aloud can be a special time for you and your children to bond. You can cuddle together as you share stories, laugh at silly characters, root for heroes, and wag your fingers at villains. You'll get to know each other better as you talk about what you read. And most of all you'll feel satisfied knowing that you're children develop a lifelong habit of reading.

*~Dr. Gagliardi*

*Reading is Fundamental, Inc.*

Lakeland Central School District

**Literacy Success**

**Thomas Jefferson  
Elementary School**

**3636 Gomer Street**

**Yorktown Heights,**

**NY 10598**

Reading aloud to children is one of the best ways to help them discover the joy of reading. And it's never too early – or too late – to start. All children, even infants and teens, can benefit from listening to you read.



**(914) 245-4802**



## Online Resources

[www.rif.org/parents](http://www.rif.org/parents)

Reading is Fundamental

[www.reading.org](http://www.reading.org)

International Reading Association

[www.read2kids.org/readaloud.htm](http://www.read2kids.org/readaloud.htm)

Family Literacy Foundation

[www.parents-choice.org](http://www.parents-choice.org)

Parents' Choice Foundation

[www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists](http://www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists)

American Library Association



## Print Resources

*How to Get Your Child to Love Reading*

Esme' Raji Codell, Algonquin, 2003.

*How to Make Your Child a Reader for Life*

Paul Knorpp, Main Street Books, 2000.

*The read Aloud Handbook, 5th Edition*

Jim Trelease, Penguin, 2001.

*Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever*

Mem Fox, Harvest Books, 2001.

## The Five Essential

### Components of Reading

- Recognizing and using individual sounds to create words, or **phonemic awareness**.
- Understanding the relationship between written letters and spoken sounds, or **phonics**.
- Developing the ability to read a text accurately and quickly, or **reading fluency**.
- Learning the meaning and pronunciation of words, or **vocabulary development**.
- Acquiring strategies to understand, remember and communicate what is read, or **reading comprehension strategies**.



## Quick Tips!

- \* Take books everywhere (the car, bus, vacation, doctor's office), and make the most of every minute.
- \* Read everyday items aloud: food labels, maps, menus, cereal boxes, road signs, catalogs, newspapers and from electronic devices too!
- \* Set up a home library. A few books on a special shelf is a great start. And it doesn't have to be expensive!

## SIMPLE STRATEGIES FOR CREATING STRONG READERS

Without doubt, reading with children spells success for early literacy. Putting a few simple strategies into action will make a significant difference in helping children develop into good readers and writers. Through reading aloud, providing print material, and promoting positive attitudes about reading and writing, you can have a powerful impact on children's literacy and learning.

Invite a child to read everyday.

Read a child's favorite book over and over again.

Read many stories with rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite the child to join in on these parts. Point, word by word, as he/she reads along with you.

Read from a variety of children's books, include non fiction, poetry, song books and fairy tales.

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*Reading well is at the  
heart of learning.*