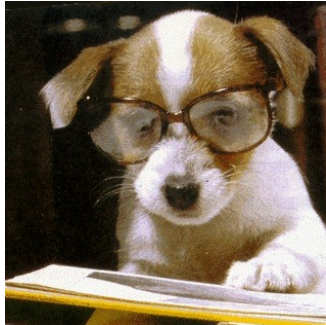


CHMS Reading News

May 2018



Clever Canine Therapy Dog

Visit

Lots of exciting things have been happening at CHMS. Clever Canines Therapy dogs paid Torch students a visit recently!

Students read about therapy and service dogs in class. Seeing them in person helped them make text-to-world connections with what they'd been reading.



Special Thanks to Julie Bowles @ Clever Canines

How to keep your middle schooler turning the pages:

1. **Let your child choose what to read.** While you may cringe at his preferences, he may never touch a title if it's force-fed.
2. **Talk about what she reads.** Ask her what she thinks of a book and make connections with ideas or issues that are relevant to her life.
3. **If he's struggling or bored with a book, let him put it down.** Forcing him to stick with a difficult or dull book that's intended for pleasure will reinforce the idea that reading is a chore.
4. **Subscribe to magazines that will interest her.** Ask her to choose one or two titles and put the subscription in her name.
5. **Read the newspaper together.** Whether it's for 15 minutes over breakfast or on weekends, establish a routine and discuss what you each read.
6. **Be flexible with bedtime and chores when your child is reading.** Within reason, avoid asking your child to stop reading.
7. **Play games that utilize reading.** Word- and vocabulary-building games like Scrabble or Boggle are great, but many board games provide reading opportunities (even if it's just the instructions). Crosswords provide opportunities for learning new words and spelling practice, too.
8. **Encourage your middle-schooler to read to a younger sibling.** Letting him take over ritual reading at bedtime once a week will ensure he reads something, and he may find his sibling's enthusiasm for stories contagious.
9. **Visit the library together.** Try to make it an event where you share some quality one-on-one time and both choose a few books.
10. **Find an outlet for your child to "publish" a book review.** When she finishes a book, encourage her to write it up for a family or school newspaper, magazine, or Web site. She could also try posting a review at a local bookseller or an online retailer.
11. **Ensure he has a good reading space.** He should choose where it is, but you can make sure it's well lit and inviting so he stays a while.
12. **Keep up on what she's reading.** If you can, read a few pages of her books yourself so you can discuss them with her.
13. **Encourage writing.** Whether it's via snail- or e-mail, suggest that he keep in touch with distant friends or relatives.



Keeping a journal or chronicling a family vacation will also provide reading practice.

www.scholastic.com/parents/resources

