

WELCOME TO OUR

# Library Newsletter

FALL 2024



## WHAT HAVE WE BEEN UP TO?

### This fall...

We have been focusing on Digital Citizenship with all grades during our library lessons. This helps to remind students to be Safe, Respectful and Responsible when they are online.

**Safe** - Ask a trusted adult if you need help or feel uncomfortable with something you see online.

**Respectful** - Use kind words and stand up for your friends and siblings if someone is unkind to them.

**Responsible** - It is okay to share personal information (your favorites), but it is not okay to share private information (full name, address, phone number, passwords, etc.) without a parent's permission.

### This Winter...

#### WE WILL EXPLORE CODING!

Glendale participates in the Hour of Code to help promote interest in STEM subjects. Students learn what computer programming is and get to try it themselves using the lessons, videos and games created especially for elementary students on Code.org.





## The Power of Reading Aloud

“There is an easy way to improve your child's chances at school. It will entertain and delight him. It will strengthen the bonds between him and you. And it is virtually free.

Sound too good to be true? Actually, it isn't. The magical method: taking time to read aloud to your child.

In an era of high-stakes testing and education reforms and revolutions, research has repeatedly proved that one simple parenting technique is among the most effective. Children who are read aloud to by parents get a head start in language and literacy skills and go to school better prepared.

“Reading aloud to young children, particularly in an engaging manner, promotes emerging literacy and language development and supports the relationship between child and parent,” concluded a 2008 review in the Archives of Disease in Childhood.

In other words, reading that bedtime story may not only entertain and soothe Johnny, it may also develop his vocabulary, improve his ability to learn to read, and – perhaps most important – foster a lifelong love of books and reading.

Developing that passion for reading is crucial, according to Jim Trelease, author of the best-seller, “The Read-Aloud Handbook.” “Every time

we read to a child, we're sending a 'pleasure' message to the child's brain,” he writes in the “Handbook.” “You could even call it a commercial, conditioning the child to associate books and print with pleasure.”

This reading “commercial” is critical when competition for a child's attention is so fierce. Between television, movies, the internet, video games and myriad after-school activities, the pleasures of sitting down with a book are often overlooked. In addition, negative experiences with reading – whether frustrations in learning to read or tedious “skill and drill” school assignments – can further turn children off from reading.

That can have long-term consequences. As Mr. Trelease succinctly puts it in his handbook, “Students who read the most, read the best, achieve the most, and stay in school the longest. Conversely, those who don't read much, cannot get better at it.”

Reading aloud is, according to the landmark 1985 report “Becoming a Nation of Readers,” “the single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading.”

Want to read more?

Go to [sites.isdschools.org/david\\_cromwell](https://sites.isdschools.org/david_cromwell) and click on “Read Aloud”.