

# What's Important About Reading!

Reading introduces us to new vocabulary. We learn new words from books, words that we don't use in regular conversation. Children's picture books are filled with rare and wonderful words. Being familiar with "rare" words is the key to understanding and comprehension.

Reading lets us experience things we might not have had the opportunity to do in our real lives, and it lets us imagine new possibilities for our lives. It gives us ideas we can dream about and pursue.

Reading can take us anywhere we want to go and it can take us to places that we have not imagined. It can open up the world to us.

Reading can make us compassionate, and better citizens of the world. It can help us understand another point of view.

Reading engages our mind to think new things, and to think deeply about things.

Reading can motivate us to act.

Reading can be an escape from stress, and company when we are lonely.

Reading teaches us what good writing sounds like, and in this way it helps us to become better writers. Writing well helps us to be more successful in our own lives.

Reading teaches us new things and helps us to be successful in school.

Reading can help families pass on information about ancestry, family history, and culture.

Reading can strengthen family relationships and improve communication.

Reading together as a family is an act of love.

Reading is power and freedom.

Resources: *The Read Aloud Handbook* by James Trelease and *The Magic Of Reading* by Mem Fox

Compiled by Ms. Leslie Sager, SPS 2006