



22 July 2022

To: Principals, Subject Advisors, Parents, Teachers, Departmental Heads, and Library Information Services (LIS) Coordinators.

Topic: Rebooting the curriculum by inculcating the culture of reading in homes

Message Objectives are to:

- Inculcating values that can help promote reading in homes
- Provide parents with guidelines to improve reading in homes

The National Reading Coalition (NRC) acknowledges that while reading should be taught at schools, parents have should also read at home with their children. While reading in school is foundational to learners' education, reading at home encourages a lifelong mindset of reading. Below are tips to encourage reading in homes:

1. Parents read to their children

Since teachers cannot afford to deal with the stress of completing the curriculum on their own, parents can play a vital role in rebooting the curriculum by inculcating the culture of reading in home. One of the most important things parents can do to encourage their children is to read to them every day. Even as their children get older, making reading part of their daily routine will encourage a culture of reading in families. As a parent, it's your responsibility to make this experience fun. Let your children pick books they enjoy. Use your storytelling skills (and character voices) to keep your child engaged. Fun voices and storytelling will also help younger children follow the story better. Below are some of the activities that could be executed by parents at home.

2. Create stories or fun games

Parents can play fun games with their children to help with sight words, phonics words, or spelling. They can do a word scavenger hunt or a sight word game with their children. Take turns reading poems or find and follow a recipe together. Parents may engage children in storytelling on why certain trees are useful in homes.

3. Have a wide variety of books available in your homes

As a parent, your children should see books in their home multiple times a day every day. There should always book nearby so your child can have the opportunity to read if he or she wants to. Stock your library with age-appropriate books about your child's interests, favourite characters, and favourite types of stories. Do your children love stories about other children, fantasy or science fiction? Books about talking animals?.

5. Join a family Virtual Reading Club

The NRC will host its fourth Virtual Reading Club on the 28th of July 2022. Register on www.nrc.org.za so that you get more details.

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