

Establishing Reading Routines at Home

Setting up a reading routine at home is a great way to foster a love of books and improve literacy skills. Here are some recommendations for parents:

1. Set a Consistent Reading Time

- Choose a time that works best for your family, such as in the morning, after dinner, or before bed.
- Stick to the schedule to make reading a daily/weekly habit.
- Consider a family book night to read together.

2. Create a Cozy Reading Space

- Set up a quiet, comfortable area with good lighting and a variety of reading materials.
- Use cushions, blankets, or a special chair to make it inviting.

3. Let Kids Choose Books

- Encourage children to pick books that interest them to increase engagement.
- Offer a mix of fiction, nonfiction, and different genres.

4. Read Together and Aloud

- Read books aloud, using expressive voices to make the story exciting.
- For older kids, take turns reading pages or paragraphs.

5. Encourage Discussion

- Ask open-ended questions about the story, such as "What do you think will happen next?" or "How would you feel in this situation?"
- Connect the book's themes to real life.

6. Make Books Accessible

- Visit the library regularly to keep options fresh.
- Audiobooks can be a great alternative for busy days or car rides.
- E-books and reading apps can also add variety.

7. Be a Reading Role Model

- Let your child see you reading books, newspapers, or magazines.
- Share your excitement about stories and learning.

8. Incorporate Reading into Daily Activities

- Read recipes, shopping lists, signs, or instructions together.
- Encourage storytelling and writing alongside reading.

We appreciate you inspiring young readers in Memphis. If you have any questions about our work, please reach out to us at info@shelbyliteracy.com.