



“If there’s a book that you want to read, but it hasn’t been written yet, then you must write it.”

Toni Morrison

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

Every year during the beginning of February, World Read Aloud Day highlights the importance of reading aloud and sharing stories. Participants are encouraged to select a book, find a friend, and read aloud.

Other benefits of reading aloud include:

- helping children acquire a larger vocabulary
- building a connection between the spoken and written word
- helping to increase attention span
- strengthens a child’s cognition
- providing a safe way to explore strong emotions

When reading aloud, you should not read books that are too difficult or too easy. It is recommended to find a place to read where there are minimal distractions. Also ensure there is enough time to read the book. It’s important to read the book from beginning to end.

HOW TO OBSERVE #WorldReadAloudDay

Millions of people in over 170 countries celebrate this day. In 2019, the special day of reading was on the top trending hashtags on Twitter. Celebrities like Sarah Jessica Parker and Chelsea Clinton have participated in the event.

It’s easy to participate. Simply find someone or a group of people to read a book to. Parents can read to their children. Kids can practice reading aloud by sharing their favorite story with friends or family. Some people even read aloud to their pets. If you want to participate in a read-aloud event in your community, check with the library or bookstore.

World Read Aloud Day

CELEBRATE AT SCHOOL

LitWorld founded World Read Aloud Day (WRAD) in 2010 because reading aloud is a powerful and transformative act. Every February, schools around the world celebrate WRAD in creative and exciting ways. Join the movement with your students and make sure to read aloud on World Read Aloud Day!

DROP EVERYTHING AND READ ALOUD

Designate a time at which everyone in your building drops everything else they are doing to hear a read aloud! Decide upon your read aloud texts in advance and make sure that each classroom has a text on hand.

HOST A READ-A-THON

Designate a corner of your school or classroom as a ‘read aloud space’. Make sure there are lots of books available and schedule a variety of readers to take center stage throughout the day. Allow volunteer readers to sign up in the weeks leading up to World Read Aloud Day to create excitement and anticipation!

HOST A WORLD READ ALOUD DAY ASSEMBLY

World Read Aloud Day is a great time for a fun, school-wide event! WRAD assemblies often include fun performances by both children and adults, like story readings or character costume shows!

WHAT SHOULD YOU READ ALOUD?

Subject-specific Texts and Articles
Reading content specific or scientific articles can be both educational and engaging.

Picture Books
No matter the age, picture books activate our imaginations and relax our brains. Let kids’ minds escape the classroom and become immersed in a picture book!

Writing done by local authors or individuals in your community

WRAD is a great day to showcase the talents of the writers right in your community! Have kids read their own short stories or poems aloud for an audience!

WHO SHOULD READ ALOUD?

School Staff and Leadership

Invite members of your entire school community to read aloud on WRAD, from the principal to the custodial staff!

Community Leaders and Special Guests

Invite community leaders and parents to join the WRAD celebrations at your school.

Kids

Have older kids read to younger kids, younger kids read to older kids, and peers read to each other!

Authors

Sites like Skype in the Classroom make it easy to invite published authors to join your WRAD celebrations! Don’t forget to reach out to local authors as well!

#WorldReadAloudDay
For more ideas, visit:
<http://www.litworld.org/worldreadaloudday/>
<http://teacher.scholastic.com/worldreadaloudday/>
<https://education.microsoft.com/literacy>

World Read Aloud Day

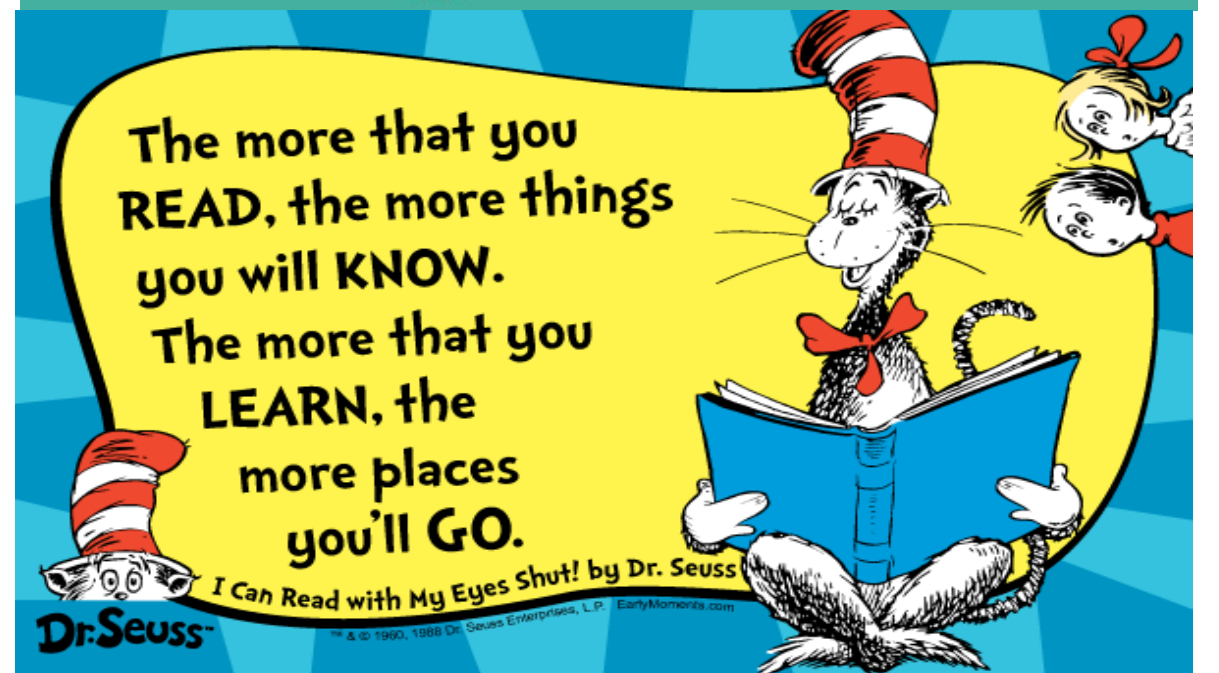
READ ALOUD TIPS from LitWorld

Reading aloud improves listening skills, vocabulary acquisition, and the understanding of common story themes and structures that will factor into children’s future success. Even for adults, reading aloud is a fun, easy way to connect people. Use these tips to create a powerful, memorable read aloud experience.

- **Read the book beforehand** to familiarize yourself with the story. Make note of places you want to stop and ask questions.
- If your book has a lot of text, **try a story walk** instead of reading every word. A story walk is when you summarize what is happening on each page while pointing to the illustrations to help explain the action.
- **Ask questions out loud as you read.** Ask listeners to predict what will happen next, how they would feel if they were in the story, or the meaning of an unfamiliar word. Limit your questions to one or two per story so they do not disrupt the flow of the reading.
- **After you finish a story, have a conversation** that focuses on connecting the text to the listeners’ lives and experiences.
- **Invite listeners to act out portions of the story** as you read or designate some actors to help bring parts of the story to life!
- Make sure to **talk about the Read Aloud experience itself!** Ask listeners to reflect upon how it feels to be part of a Read Aloud community. Discuss the importance of these types of experiences both locally and around the world. Brainstorm ways to bring the community feeling of the Read Aloud to other activities that they complete throughout the day.



Reading aloud to children every day puts them almost a year ahead of children who do not receive daily read alouds.



Source: <https://www.litworld.org/worldreadaloudday>