**Home Reading at Copperfield School**

According to the National Center for Education statistics(NCES), children who are read to at home enjoy a substantial advantage over children who are not. Research has shown that the reading experiences provided by parents are some of the most important a child will ever receive. Children who are readers see themselves as successful learners and this positively impacts their attitude towards learning as a whole.

**Developing a love for reading:**

Becoming literate, and developing a love of reading, is a goal we hold for our children. There are many components to developing literacy. The following components can be well supported at home:

* Enjoy stories – read favourite books, funny books, animal books – whatever your child enjoys. Make this an enjoyable time with your child. Cuddle up in a chair and share a story. A variety of fiction and non-fiction are important.
* Develop comprehension strategies – ask questions while you are reading together. Why do you think that happened? What would you have done if you were in that situation?
* Acquire vocabulary – choose books with rich and varied language. Point out new words, talk about the words in the book and what they mean.
* Accrue information – books are very informative. What did we learn from this book?

**Reading Strategies:**

Here are some tips to help beginning readers decode unfamiliar words:

* Look at the picture. Use the first letter of the word and the picture to help identify the unknown word.
* Try to sound out the word. Think about what the first and last sounds are and try to put the word together.
* Think about the vowel or vowels that are in the word. Would they make a long or short vowel sound?
* Look for a word you know inside a larger word
* Read the sentence without the word and try to think of what the word might be.
* Try reading the book three ways: reading the pictures (making up a story based on the pictures), reading the words, retelling the story in your own words

**Home Reading Logistics:**

* Start home reading sessions with a familiar book that your child has already read.
* Practice reading the book multiple times to help improve fluency and expression.
* Have your child retell the story to show that they understand the beginning, middle and end.
* Home reading will begin very soon. Additional information will come home from your child’s teacher.

**\*\*\* Our home reading collection is comprised of all new books. We want to ensure that all books are accounted for. Please ensure safekeeping of these books. For any books that are damaged or lost, there will be a $5.00 charge per book. \*\*\***

**Resources:**

Accessing reading resources is easier than it has ever been. Choosing a variety of resources for your child supports them in learning print is everywhere and stories are everywhere! To support families, we recommend:

* Build a home library. Book orders, garage ales, birthday presents … it’s always fun to get a new book or magazine!
* Calgary Public Library – all Calgarians are eligible for a free library card. With this you can access electronic books or print media.
* APPS. Epic! is an amazing APP to support home reading. Try the one month free trial.
* Calgary Reads – parent tab has excellent information and resources to support you and your child.