"There's no such thing as a kid who hates reading. There are just kids who love reading, and kids who are reading the wrong books. We need to help them find the right books.[1]"

[1]James Patterson, Award-winning Novelist and Founder of Read Kiddo Read, *The Joy and Power of Reading – A Summary of Research and Expert Opinion*

Independent Reading: what the research tells us

The impact of independent reading for 20 minutes per day

Independent reading time	Words per year *(in millions)*	Reading rate %
21 minutes / day	1.80	90th
9.6 minutes / day	.62	70th
4.6 minutes / day	.28	50th

Anderson, R. C., P. Wilson, and L. Fielding. Growth in reading and how children spend their time outside of school. *Reading Research Quarterly* 23: 285–303

Independent Reading: what the research tells us

Reading builds a cognitive processing infrastructure that
then "massively influences" every aspect of our thinking.
(Stanovich, 2003)

Children between the ages of 10 and 16 who read for pleasure make more progress not
only in vocabulary and spelling but also in mathematics than those who rarely read
(Sullivan & Brown, 2013)

Omnivorous reading in childhood and adolescence correlates positively
with ultimate adult success
(Simonton, 1988)

Avid teen readers engage in deep intellectual work and psychological exploration
through the books they choose to read themselves
(Wilhelm & Smith, 2013)

Children Who Read… Succeed!
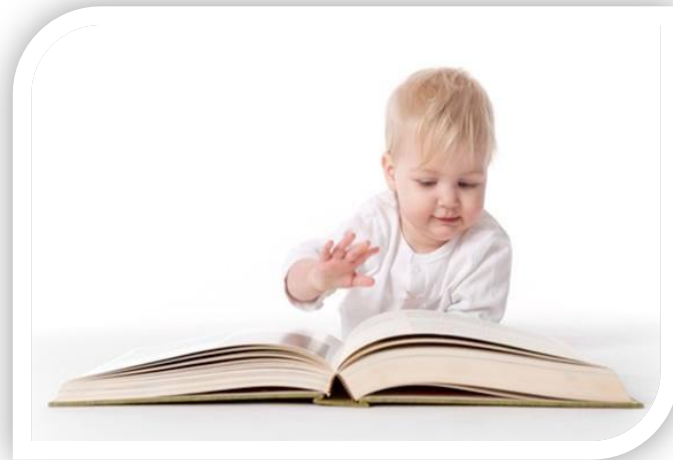
Early Readers

"Children exposed to lots of books during their early childhood will have an easier time learning to read than those who are not."

Dr. Henry Bernstein,
Harvard Medical School

The brain develops faster than any other time between the ages of zero and three.

It's therefore crucial to foster literacy during the early stages of life.

There's real opportunity in providing parents with books and encouragement to read to their children regularly, sing with their children and engage their children in conversation

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Adolescents

Effective teachers understand the importance of adolescent choice and ownership, as well as the importance of helping teens develop a sense of their own reading lives

(Kittle, 2013; Miller, 2009; Tatum, 2013; 2009; Guthrie, 2008; Gallagher 2009; Atwell, 2007).

The International Reading Association Position Paper of 2012 identified the following instructional supports that adolescents crave:

- ✓ A culture of literacy in their schools with a systematic and comprehensive programmatic approach to increasing literacy achievement for all.

- ✓ Differentiated literacy instruction specific to their individual needs.

- ✓ Opportunities to participate in oral communication when they engage in literacy activities.

- ✓ Assessments that highlight their strengths and challenges.

- ✓ Access to a wide variety of print and non-print materials.

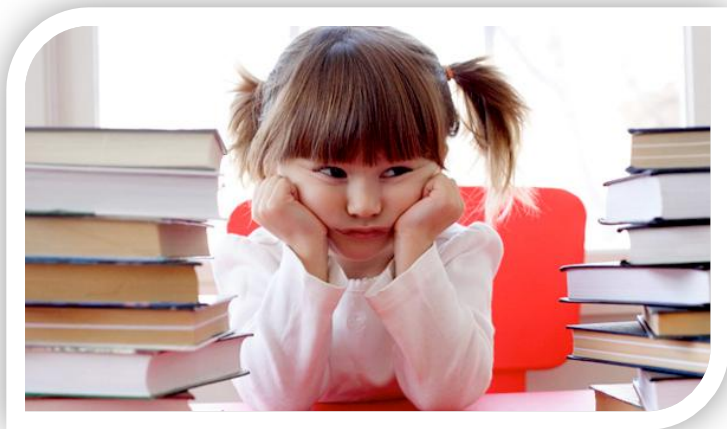## Reluctant Readers

"When classroom teachers provided students with easy access to a wide range of interesting texts, the effects on comprehension and motivation to read were enormous."

Richard Allington, Professor of Education

Key Findings

✓ Teachers play a pivotal role in helping their students find the will to read and the thrill of succeeding. They:

Provide their students with the instructional scaffolding they need to succeed. (eg. Videos can deliver the essential background knowledge for students to access increasingly complex text).

Match their students with books that they can read with enjoyment and deep comprehension.

Reluctant Readers

Students, even those who find reading challenging, thrive in classrooms that are filled with books at different levels, where the teacher celebrates books

Struggling readers benefit more than any other reader profile when they are allowed to choose books they **want** to read

Many students who struggle with reading expect to fail. Many have never succeeded in academics, so lose motivation quickly

Children must have easy – literally fingertip – access to books that provide engaging, successful reading experiences throughout the calendar year

How can you help?

Principals

Teachers

Families

"I was lucky enough to grow up when ··· the most wonderful thing a teacher might say was, 'Go to the library and pick out a book.' "

Dr. Bill McBride,
Educator, Author, and Speaker

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How can you help?

Principals

Allocate independent reading time

Uninterrupted time to read – 30 to 45 minutes at school – optimizes the benefits of independent reading

Ensure easy access to a wealth of books

Ensure your school library is stocked with books that your students **want** to read (they may not be _your_ first choice)

Define and understand reading

Work to establish your own beliefs about reading and how it should flourish in the school environment

Model the joy and power of reading

Know books. Share books. Nothing you do is more potent than the example you set as a reader.

How can you help?

Teachers

- ✓ **Build a rich classroom library:** Make sure your collection is diverse and culturally responsive

- ✓ **Be a reader**: Make it your responsibility to get acquainted with young adult and children's literature

- ✓ **Give book talks:** Introduce students to the joy of wide reading by sharing multiple books through regular book talks

- ✓ **Know your students as readers:** Reading surveys, one-on-one conferences and reading interviews help

- ✓ **Develop reading plans for your students:** Inexperienced readers in particular require instructional support, beginning with how to select books thoughtfully

- ✓ **The power of choice and self-selection:** Readers are most engaged, and derive the most pleasure, when they are able to choose their own books

How can you help?

Families

✓ **Value reading:** Parents show their own interest in books by reading in front of their children.

✓ **Cultivate a growth mindset:** Set high expectations for your children's reading success and model your own passion for reading.

✓ **Fill your home with reading and writing materials:** These include books, magazines, newspapers, pencils, crayons. All create development opportunities.

✓ **Read with and to your child:** Parents who read to babies, toddlers, and preschoolers encourage confident and enthusiastic readers

✓ **Talk:** The quantity and content of conversation between parents and children influence language and vocabulary development

www.scholastic.com/worldofpossible

Advances in technology to support independent reading

Growth and increased performance of cloud-based software

Online, self-adaptive testing now at a speed that renders it a viable alternative to offline tests

Speed of data processing – ability to pull specific information from a database of hundreds of thousands of pieces of data

School access to high performance hardware

Growth of tablet usage in the classroom

Interactive whiteboard usage in the classroom

How is Scholastic using this technology?

SCHOLASTIC Literacy Pro

Assess
Online, self-adaptive test determines student's Lexile®

Inform
The program gathers real-time data into reports educators can use to differentiate and plan instruction

Develop
The program generates a targeted reading list based on a student's Lexile® AND interests

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Targeted Reading is defined as 100L below and 50L above a student's Lexile®

More than 75% comprehension:
Too easy!

Targeted range of 75% comprehension:
Just right!

Less than 75% comprehension:
Too hard!

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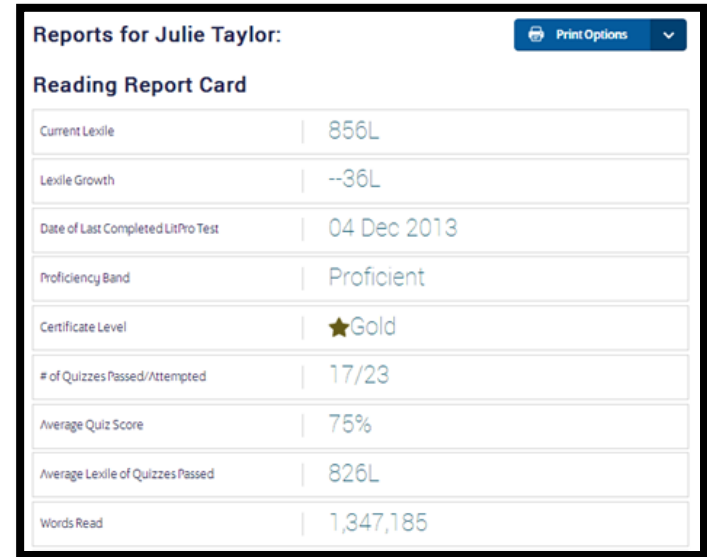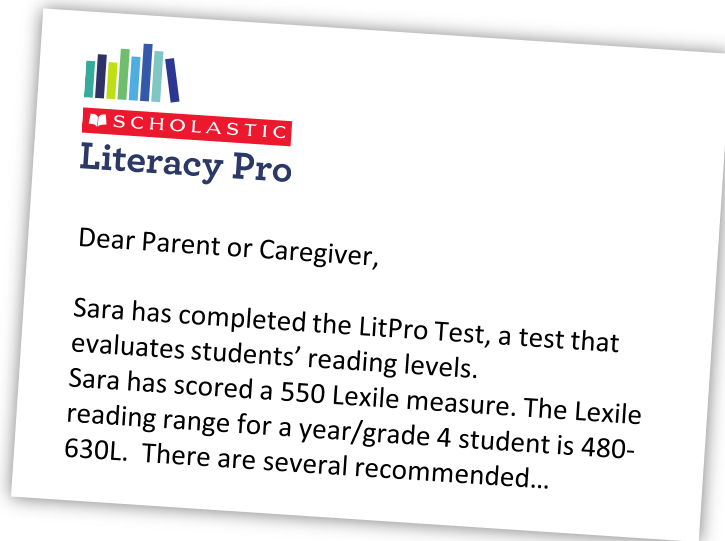# Match students to books they *choose* to read

Recommended Reading Lists generated from a database of over 55,000 titles from a huge variety of publishers based on:

✓ The student's individual Lexile® score

✓ The student's reading interests

Provision of immediately actionable data

Stay on top of and share students' reading progress via tailored parent letters and individual report cards

Literacy Pro

Dear Parent or Caregiver,

Sara has completed the LitPro Test, a test that evaluates students' reading levels.
Sara has scored a 550 Lexile measure. The Lexile reading range for a year/grade 4 student is 480-630L. There are several recommended...

Reports for Julie Taylor:

Print Options

Reading Report Card

Current Lexile	856L
Lexile Growth	--36L
Date of Last Completed LitPro Test	04 Dec 2013
Proficiency Band	Proficient
Certificate Level	★Gold
# of Quizzes Passed/Attempted	17/23
Average Quiz Score	75%
Average Lexile of Quizzes Passed	826L
Words Read	1,347,185

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Provision of immediately actionable data

Instant access to a wealth of reporting to help teachers tailor their instruction

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Literacy Pro

Sign up to a free online session below (8am ET):

| Wednesday October 22nd | Wednesday October 29th | Wednesday November 12th |

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