



21–Hour Reading Club For Grades K-2

Dear Parents/Guardians,

August 8, 2010

What if there was ONE thing you could do that would absolutely improve your child’s ability in school? What if it were free? Well, there is! Research has shown the single most important activity for building the knowledge for eventual success, is reading aloud to your child. Jim Trelease, national reading expert and the author of *The Read-Aloud Handbook*, states that reading aloud to your child “conditions the child to associate reading with pleasure, creates background knowledge, and provides a reading role model.” I hear many parents say, “Sure I know I should read to my child, but who has time?” What if I told you it would take only 15 minutes a day?

The Oasis 21-Hour Reading Club is designed to increase student enthusiasm for reading. Here’s how it works: Each child (grades K-2) will receive a reading log. Every time you read to your child, or your child reads at home preferably with your supervision and direction (not during school hours), you or your child can record the title and number of minutes on a reading log. I encourage you to spend the majority of this time reading with your child so they will receive the maximum benefit of this program. Children reading alone are left without guidance when they encounter an unknown word or information. Please be sure to review pages after reading, to insure your child comprehends the book’s message.

Other Reasons Reading With Your Child Is Important

- stimulates your child’s imagination
- develops your child’s interest in reading and in books
- improves your child’s listening skills
- builds vocabulary
- helps your child to understand stories and “book language”
- creates a bond between you and your child
- provides your child with a positive role model

Each reading log is designed to **record 3 hours worth of reading no more, no less**. Children should return the completed log as soon as three hours are recorded. One log every few weeks will get them to their final goal. If you choose to read a harder chapter book to your child, simply count the number of minutes you read to them. If your child is participating in the Book It Program, the time they read at home can be counted toward the 21-Hour Reading Club. For each 3-hour reading log returned, the student will receive a reward from the school library. Rewards will be sent to the child’s classroom within the week. Additional reading logs can be obtained from the Oasis Elementary library or the school website at: <http://capecharterschools.org> Select “Our Classes”, Media Center, then scroll down to 21-Hour Reading Log.

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Please sign each reading log and make sure only 3 hours are recorded on each log. Turning in reading logs which are inaccurate will not make your child a better reader and will teach them to be dishonest. So please make sure you verify what your child is reading. Ask them questions about what they have read or listened to, and make sure they understand the book's message.

The student should return the reading log to the library on their Media checkout day, or to their classroom teacher.

Thank you for participating in this program which will benefit your child.

Rewards will be given for each 3 hour reading log completed.

18 Hour Reward - Ice Cream Sundae Party (will be held in April)

21 Hour Reward - 21– Hour Rewards Ceremony (will be held in May)

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