

Dear Family,

Congratulations on a successful school year! Research indicates that **reading daily** increases vocabulary and improves comprehension. One way to ensure your child is ready for school this fall is to encourage them to think about their reading. Here are some suggestions of how this can be done:

- **Phonics:** Help develop word knowledge by encouraging your child to sound out words, think of the parts of each word. For example, when we spell the word dog, we separate it into its three separate sounds: /d/-/o/-/g/. It's important to note that the length of the word doesn't matter. What matters are the individual sounds the word produces.
- **Literary Comprehension (Fiction):** Ask your child about the text that is being read. Simple questions include who the characters are, where the story is taking place, if there is a problem and how it is being resolved.
- **Informational Comprehension (Non-fiction):** Have your child point out text features (bold words, pictures and captions, graphs and diagrams) and ask what they have learned from these features. Discuss what new information they have learned about a topic. Discuss and encourage your child to think about and use new vocabulary words when speaking.

A minimum of twenty minutes per day of engaged reading will ensure your child is ready when they reenter the classroom this fall. Never underestimate the power of reading with your child. While they hear a book read fluently, students develop both vocabulary and reading comprehension skills. Visit your local library all summer.

Please sign and return this letter the first week of school to indicate your child has read this summer. Students may choose 2-3 activities from the choice board. The choice board has links and can be accessed at <https://www.bwrsd.org/domain/3546>

Student's Name: _____

Parent's Signature: _____