## Why read at home?

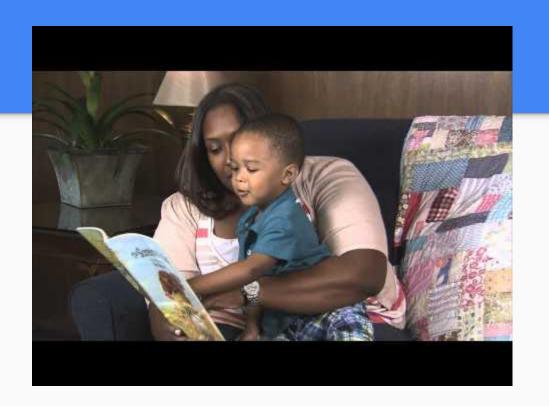
1. Improved reading fluency—Kids who read often and widely get better at it; practice makes perfect in almost everything we do and reading is no different.

2. Reading exercises our brains. Reading is a much more complex task than watching TV is. Reading strengthens brain connections and actually builds new connections.

3. Reading improves concentration. Children have to sit still and quietly so they can focus on the story when they're reading. If they read regularly as they grow up, they develop the ability to do this for longer and longer periods.

4. Reading teaches children about the world around them. Through reading, they learn about people, places and events outside their own experience. They are exposed to ways of life, ideas and beliefs about the world which may be different from those which surround them.

5. Reading improves a child's vocabulary, leads to more highly-developed language skills and improves the child's ability to write well. Children learn new words as they read but also because they unconsciously absorb information as they read. In this this way, students can learn how to structure sentences and how to use words and language effectively.



# Ways to Keep Your Child Reading Every Day

- 1. Designate one night a week when you drop everything and read--a "DEAR Night"
- 2. Listen to audio books in the car
- 3. Play board games that require you to spell (Scrabble, Boggle, and Scattergories)
- 4. Browse through cookbooks and try a recipe together
- 5. Listen to your child read or tell a story