



Oakdale Elementary

Summer Reading

(Not Required, but Encouraged)

During the summer, we encourage students to commit to 30 minutes a day of reading texts of their choice while school is not in session. Research suggests that this simple commitment provides growth in vocabulary, fluency, background knowledge, and overall comprehension.

If you wonder what your child should read, we suggest the following:

- Provide students access to different types of reading on different platforms including news, audio books, magazines, even online content. We often think of reading just in terms of books, but other types of text offer engagement and opportunities to practice reading skills.
- Audio books are fine! While we certainly want our readers to practice reading print, audio books model the important skill of fluency as well as comprehension. For some readers, audio books spark an interest in reading that might not otherwise exist.
- There are suggested reading levels you can find in the public library or online to help you choose an appropriate grade level text for your K-2 student.
- Graphic novels are also fine. Graphic novels and their comic book counterparts often have very complex stories, and the images support comprehension.
- We agree with author James Patterson, "There is no such thing as a kid who hates reading. There are kids who love reading, and kids who are reading the wrong book." Start with what a child is willing to read, then nudge them into other resources.
- Don't worry if your child abandons a text. Just try another genre, author, topic, or format. Keep trying!

