



October 2016 Teacher Newsletter

www.arkansased.gov/divisions/communications/my-childmy-student

Read for Success

Reading sets the foundation for student learning and creates a pathway to future success. Teachers play a key role in helping students read on grade level and creating a life-long passion for reading.

To instill this love for reading, make reading fun in the classroom. Surround students with books, reading nooks and time for independent reading. Provide opportunities for students to talk about what they read with others. Use technology to let students write and publish blogs or reports about what they read. Incorporate class contests or school-wide reading initiatives that bring energy and excitement about reading into your buildings.

Bring parents along on this reading journey by providing resources and materials for them to use at home. Consider inviting community members, parents, and older students to read to your students and talk about how reading impacts their lives.

As you think about how you can help create life-long readers, consider the following questions.

- How can I promote the importance of reading in the classroom?
- How can I help parents encourage reading at home?
- What reading resources can I share with parents so they can help their child at home?
- How can I help parents find appropriate reading materials for their child?
- How can I get the community involved in reading programs at my school?
- What reading programs does my school provide for students who need extra help?

To learn more about the importance of reading on grade level, visit the Arkansas Campaign for Grade-Level Reading's website: <http://www.ar-qlr.net>.

Red Ribbon Week

Alongside academics, teachers have the critical job of building character and good-decision making skills. Having a week dedicated to educating students on the importance of saying “no” to drugs and alcohol provides teachers with the opportunity to have crucial conversations that can impact a child’s future.

Red Ribbon Week is October 23-31, 2016. Use this week to promote, educate and inspire students. Come up with fun lessons ideas and promote involvement in planned school activities. Be sure to involve parents. Send home resources so they can continue the conversation with their child at home.

As you promote living a drug-free lifestyle throughout the entire school year, consider the following questions.

- How can I promote Red Ribbon Week in my classroom?
- How can I encourage parent involvement in drug prevention activities at school?
- What resources can I give parents to help them promote a drug-free lifestyle at home?
- How do I promote a drug-free environment at school throughout the year?

Learn more about Red Ribbon Week at <http://redribbon.org>.