



We Love Reading in 2/3B!

Dear Parents,

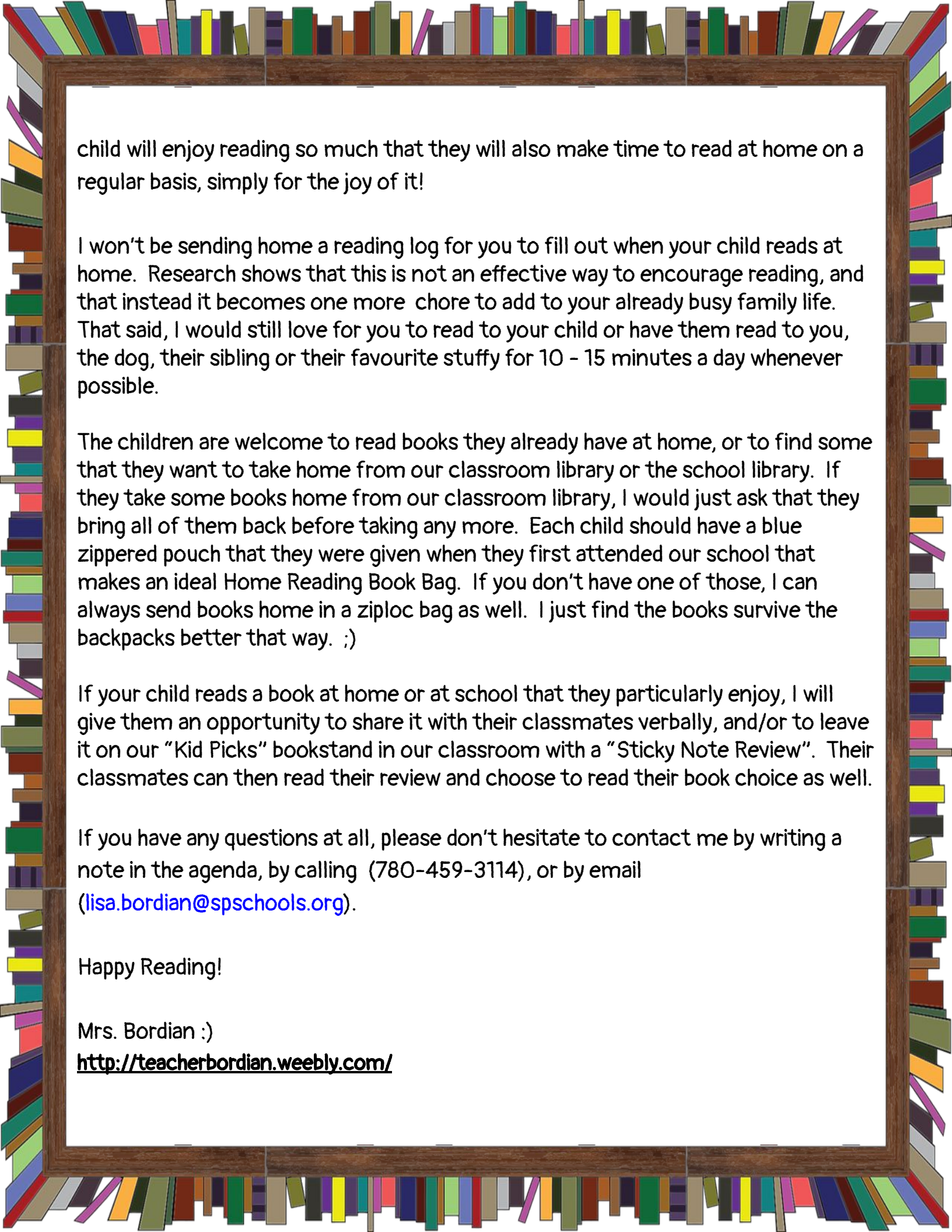
I am so excited to begin our "official" home reading program! To begin with I am going to give you a little bit of home reading to do. I have attached an article I found about reading at home which also includes some tips for you and some suggestions for ways to engage your child.

It's important to know that regardless of what grade we are in, we have many different levels of readers. Some of us are mainly reading books that have pictures for cues and less text on a page, and some of us are reading chapter books without any pictures. The important thing to remember is to encourage your child to read material that is suitable for where they are.

In class we are working on picking "good fit" books using IPICK (there is more information about IPICK at the end of this newsletter). A book that is a good fit for your child will be one that they are interested in, one they can understand, and one that allows them to easily read 99% of the words on each page. During home reading we want reading to be a pleasure, not a struggle. We want to read for meaning, not just try and sound out words. We also want to build fluency, so that our reading sounds like our speech, without hesitation and with good expression.

When I read with the children at school, I will be asking them three main questions to help them think about their reading, and you can use them too. They are: Does it look right? Does it sound right? Does it make sense?

My main goal is to help your child develop a love of reading that will last them a lifetime. In order to facilitate this, I will be providing half an hour of time during class each day to read. The children will be "Reading to Self" while I work with alternate individuals or groups of students each day. My hope is that your



child will enjoy reading so much that they will also make time to read at home on a regular basis, simply for the joy of it!

I won't be sending home a reading log for you to fill out when your child reads at home. Research shows that this is not an effective way to encourage reading, and that instead it becomes one more chore to add to your already busy family life. That said, I would still love for you to read to your child or have them read to you, the dog, their sibling or their favourite stuffy for 10 - 15 minutes a day whenever possible.

The children are welcome to read books they already have at home, or to find some that they want to take home from our classroom library or the school library. If they take some books home from our classroom library, I would just ask that they bring all of them back before taking any more. Each child should have a blue zippered pouch that they were given when they first attended our school that makes an ideal Home Reading Book Bag. If you don't have one of those, I can always send books home in a ziploc bag as well. I just find the books survive the backpacks better that way. ;)

If your child reads a book at home or at school that they particularly enjoy, I will give them an opportunity to share it with their classmates verbally, and/or to leave it on our "Kid Picks" bookstand in our classroom with a "Sticky Note Review". Their classmates can then read their review and choose to read their book choice as well.

If you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to contact me by writing a note in the agenda, by calling (780-459-3114), or by email (lisa.bordian@spschools.org).

Happy Reading!

Mrs. Bordian :)


<http://teacherbordian.weebly.com/>


Reading At Home...

Can Make A HUGE Difference!



Choose Books That Are At An Appropriate Reading Level For Your Child

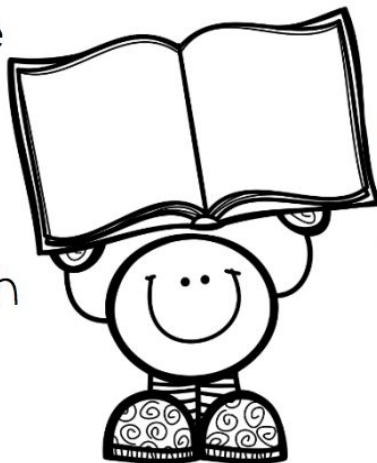
 use the two finger rule. Open the book to any page and ask your child to read. Put up a finger every time your child does not know a word. If you have put up more than two fingers before the end of the page, this book is too hard for your child.

 Choose books that match your child's likes and interests.

Make Reading A Part Of Your Family Time!

Family time is so important... Why not make reading part of this valuable time with your kids? Here are some tips for integrating reading into our daily family activities:

- Read bedtime stories
- Play a board game
- Visit your local library
- Read a recipe and cook something yummy together!
- Create a comfy reading space in your home.
- Put your child in charge of reading the grocery list at the store.



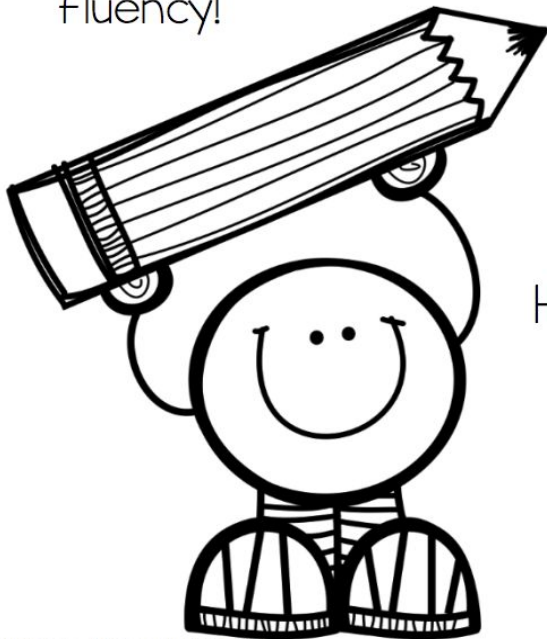
Keep plenty of reading materials in your home: books, magazines, newspapers, and comic books. Children enjoy having a variety of reading materials!

10-15
minutes is
plenty for
a beginning
reader!



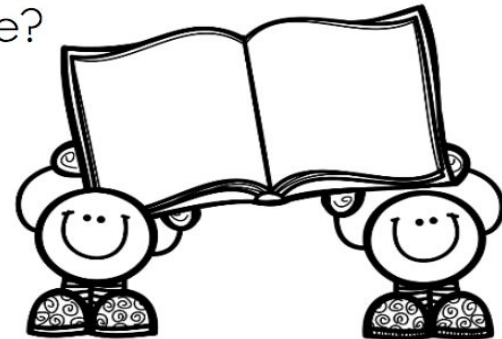
How To Read With A Beginning Reader:

- Encourage your child to use his/her finger to point to each word.
- Read a sentence and have your child repeat it.
- Take turns reading a sentence each or a page each.
- Talk about the story as you read it. What do you think will happen next? What does this story remind you of? How do you think this character feels?
- Don't be afraid to read the same book again! Repeated reading helps build reading fluency!



Check For Understanding

- ✓ Start the book by making predictions. What do you think will happen in this story?
- ✓ Ask questions and make comments during the reading process.
- ✓ After reading a book, have your child tell you the events from the story in the correct order.
- ✓ What was the problem in this story?
- ✓ How did the character feel when...?
- ✓ Encourage your child to make connections. Does this story remind you of another book you read, an event in your life, a movie?



Read Books Online!

There are many fun and interactive websites for literacy. Here are a few FREE online resources:

www.starfall.com

www.speakaboos.com

www.funbrain.com

abcya.com

<http://interactivesites.weebly.com>

I PICK

GOOD-FIT BOOKS



I SELECT A BOOK

Look it over inside and out.



PURPOSE

Why do I want to read it?



INTEREST

Does it interest me?



COMPREHEND

Do I understand what I am reading?



KNOW THE WORDS

Do I know most of the words?