

DEVELOPING READING FOR PLEASURE-A DOOR TO ACADEMIC SUCCESS

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Reading as a skill is now a valuable tool in one's life, particularly for children who are still on their path to academic learning and discovery. Reading enables people to discover the secret hidden in every printed word in specific reading material. Reading provides access to the gemstones in life lessons included in the various learning resources. Those rich gems found in good and engaging books would be useless if not read.

Developing reading interest in today's youngsters is regarded as a "herculean task" for parents and teachers because there are so many distracting variables that prevent them from engaging in reading activities. Among this reason is the amount of time youngsters spend on social media platforms such as Facebook, Instagram, Tiktok, and other online games, particularly ML or so-called Mobile Legends. Many children and some adults become addicted. Another factor is a child's capacity to grasp a text that he reads. Many children can read diverse texts but do not understand what they are reading. They appear to be having difficulty understanding the meaning due to a lack of vocabulary. The equivalent of those English words they read in books is beyond their comprehension. As a result, many youngsters are no longer exposed to various reading materials. As a result, their vocabulary is deteriorating. This situation also implies that many children are no longer interested in the unfamiliar terms in their reading.

Developing children's reading interests should begin in their early childhood at home. Exposing youngsters to a variety of learning resources may assist in drawing their attention to books, seeing the pictures, and eventually unlocking the content by decoding

the letter printing until they understand what the image is about. If they were interested in book, they would browse and read more until it became habit.

An identical situation should be played out in school. Learners must be surrounded by a variety of engaging learning materials that will entice them to read and finally find a plethora of things that relate to their interests and curiosity. This allows them to see things independently and become proactive learners, vital for academic achievement and development.

As a result, only via consistent reading can a learner attain academic success, which is vital for achieving higher quality education, employment, and life in general.

References:

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