

## THE IMPORTANCE OF BASIC READING FOR PRIMARY PUPILS

*by:*

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Reading is very important skill in every learner's life. It is one of the core competencies that a pupil must master and learn at an early stage. Learning to read serves as a springboard for learners to acquire quality learning.

Having said that, reading plays an integral role in every pupil's life as a learner. Let us take a close look at the importance of reading.

First, reading develops the pupils' vocabulary. The more children read, the wider their vocabulary become. They are exposed to different words, which help them become more well-versed. As time goes by, they learn the meaning and later on, they use those words. Aside from being a prolific reader, they become eloquent speakers and communicators.

Second, reading enhances pupils' comprehension. Some surveys showed that there is diminishing rate of reading comprehension of Filipino readers. This is the result of limited reading activities. If the learner is exposed and acquainted with reading, it becomes their habit. It also helps them understand texts and passages, literally and figuratively. Moreover, their comprehension skills accelerates as they read more books and other reading materials. Their level of understanding improves as they encounter more books.

Third, reading hones pupils' critical skills. As the learners become wide readers, their level of knowledge and understanding also reaches higher level. They start from literal then figurative then critical thinking. They learn to "read between the lines." They learn how to analyze, infer and conclude. They go beyond mere reading. They understand context and learn to make judgments according to what they understand and read.

Fourth, reading improves the memory. The brain learns to function well. It also learns how to grasp details and ideas. It also helps the reader important facts and details.

Fifth, reading helps pupils become imaginative. By reading fiction, fantasies and other literature, the pupils' imagination is being stirred up and thus, it is developed. Reading stirs up imagination which in return, help them become creative.

Reading is vital. It can be a fun and memorable experience to our young learners. Let us help them develop this skills for them to be efficient learners someday.

*References:*

<https://youngreadersfoundation.org/importance-of-reading/#:~:text=The%20Importance%20Of%20Reading&text=Reading%20is%20an%20exercise%20for,to%20have%20better%20cognitive%20skills>