

## CREATING LIFELONG READERS

*by:*  
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Fostering a love for reading in primary school children is essential for their academic and personal growth. One of the most effective ways to ignite this passion is by providing access to a wide variety of books that cater to different interests. Children are more likely to develop a love for reading if they have the freedom to choose books that resonate with them. Whether it's adventure stories, fantasy, non-fiction, or picture books, having a diverse selection allows children to explore different genres and find what excites them the most.

Creating a positive reading environment is another key factor in fostering a love for reading. This can be achieved by setting aside dedicated reading time in the school day or at home, where children can enjoy reading without distractions. Additionally, parents and teachers can model good reading habits by reading aloud to children or discussing books in an engaging way. When children see adults enjoying reading, they are more likely to view it as a pleasurable and worthwhile activity.

Engaging children with interactive reading experiences also plays a vital role in cultivating a love for reading. Activities like acting out scenes from a story, drawing pictures based on a book, or having discussions about the characters and plot help deepen their connection to the material. These activities transform reading from a passive to an active experience, making it more enjoyable and memorable. By involving children in these creative processes, teachers and parents can help them develop critical thinking skills and a deeper understanding of the stories they read.

Lastly, it's important to celebrate reading achievements, no matter how small. Recognizing milestones, such as finishing a book or reading for a certain amount of time, encourages children to take pride in their reading journey. Positive reinforcement can be as simple as praise or using a reward system to motivate children. By making reading a fun and rewarding activity, children will not only improve their literacy skills but also develop a lifelong love for books and learning.

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