

RIVER RIDGE ELEMENTARY LITERACY PLAN



River Ridge Elementary School is excited to launch a school literacy plan for the 2016-2017 school year. Our mission as a school and district is to help our students become better readers in order to be lifelong learners. Our school and district plan is aligned with the state's Read to Succeed initiative.

River Ridge's Literacy Vision

Literacy is the foundation for all learning and is integral to success within the global community. The transition from learning to read and reading to learn is an important progression to lifelong learning beyond the classroom. Students must have opportunities to collaborate through literacy in whole group and small group settings, as well as, through independent practice. All educators are teachers of literacy and facilitate learning through reading and writing using the gradual release of responsibility. Student achievement data reflects growth for all students.

What is River Ridge doing to help our readers?

1. Providing opportunity for children to read a variety of texts and genres each day.
2. Students are given a chance to choose their books based on their interests.
3. Engaging readers through research, book clubs, project based learning opportunities, technology, etc.
4. Providing collaboration among students about their reading.
5. Ensuring a 90 minute ELA block for whole group direct instruction, small group goal based groups, and independent practice.

READ TO SUCCEED (R2S) OVERVIEW

In June 2014, the South Carolina General Assembly passed Act 284 (Read to Succeed). It is a huge step toward closing the state's achievement gap and increasing opportunities for all students in South Carolina. The goal of Read to Succeed is to ensure all students graduate from high school with the reading and writing skills they need to be college- and career-ready.

Eight Components of R2S

1. State, district, and school reading plans
2. Focus on third grade retention
3. Summer reading camps
4. Provision of reading interventions
5. Requirements for in-service educator endorsements
6. Early learning and literacy development
7. Teacher preparation
8. Reading Coaches

The River Ridge Literacy Plan can be viewed in its entirety through a link on our school website.

How Can I Get My Child to Read Outside of the Classroom?

1. **Let your child choose what to read.** While you may not like the book that was chosen, your child may never touch a title if it's forced upon him or her.
2. **Talk about what your child reads.** Ask what she or he thinks of a book and make connections with ideas or issues that are relevant to his or her life.
3. **It is alright for your child to put a book down if he or she is struggling or bored with the book.** Forcing a child to stick with a difficult or dull book that's intended for pleasure will reinforce the idea that reading is a chore.
4. **Subscribe to magazines that will interest him or her.**
5. **Read the newspaper (Can be online) together.** Whether it's for 15 minutes over breakfast or on weekends, establish a routine and discuss what you each read.
6. **Be flexible with bedtime and chores when your child is reading.** Within reason, avoid asking your child to stop reading.
7. **Play games that utilize reading.** Word- and vocabulary-building games like Scrabble or Boggle are great, but many board games provide reading opportunities (even if it's just the instructions). Crosswords provide opportunities for learning new words and spelling practice, too.
8. **Encourage your child to read to a younger sibling.** Letting your child take over ritual reading at bedtime once a week will ensure he or she reads something, and a sibling's enthusiasm for stories can be contagious.
9. **Visit the library together.** Try to make it an event where you share some quality one-on-one time and both choose a few books.
10. **Ensure your child has good reading space.** Your child should choose where it is, but you can make sure it's well lit and inviting so he or she stays a while.
11. **Keep up on what he or she is reading.** If you can, read a few pages of your child's book yourself so you can discuss it with him or her.
12. **Suggest books from movies your child liked.**
13. **Listen to books on tape in the car.** If you're heading on vacation, or even back-and-forth to school, try listening to a novel that will appeal to everyone.