



## November 11 – 15, 2019: National Young Readers Week

National Young Readers Week was founded in 1986 by Pizza Hut and the Center for the Book in the Library of Congress. Annually it is observed for 5 days starting the Monday of the second full week in November, this year it is November 11<sup>th</sup> to the 15<sup>th</sup>. Reading opens a lifetime of knowledge, information, success, and happiness. Young Readers Week is a chance to celebrate with your children by reading to them and with them. Why not give them a new book on the first day of the National Readers Week or pick a book that will be a family read? Encouraging children to read has been a challenge, as long as there have been kids and books. But reading is an essential skill to have. Here are some tips for parents to encourage their kids to read and turn a young reader's reluctance into enthusiasm.

- **Develop language skills** by giving them a story to read or read to them. When finished ask the child to pinpoint favorite parts of the story. This can enable children to have fun picking out words and developing an interest.
- **Read several stories every day;** the more children are exposed to literature; the more reading will become part of their lives.
- **Surround your children with reading materials;** children with a large collection of reading resources in their homes score higher and perform better on standardized tests.
- **Encourage a wide variety of reading;** let them read menus, movie names, roadside signs, and other practical everyday information.
- **Let them use e-readers** that can adapt to each child's needs, with features such as larger font, fewer lines per page, and the use of adaptive features for students with learning disabilities.
- **Let them choose what they read;** choices in their reading materials goes a long way in raising life-long readers.
- **Help them choose age-appropriate books on topics of interest** to spark a passion for reading. Take them to the library to access a wide variety of options.

- **Show interest in your child's reading;** your response has a strong effect on how hard they will try to become a good reader.

Reading for pleasure seems to give kids an advantage in school because they are used to being introduced to new ideas and can process them more quickly and effectively than their non-reading peers.

**Monthly Messages are brought to you by the Tompkins County Youth Services Department, a proud partner of The Community Coalition for Healthy Youth.**

If you have further questions or comments about this message or would like information on how to become involved with the Community Coalition for Healthy Youth, please email [kshanks@tompkins-co.org](mailto:kshanks@tompkins-co.org).



This message was submitted by Janice Johnson.