

12 Steps toward Literacy Success...

1. Understand the theory and research on how literacy develops in young people.
2. Ensure that students read for meaning and find significance in their reading in every curriculum area.
3. Model and demonstrate literacy strategies to support and encourage developing readers.
4. Include a wide variety of reading resources — different styles, genres, and formats, including new technology, in all curriculum areas.
5. Encourage students to talk with others about what they are reading in order to build background and expand comprehension.
6. Guide students to reread and to respond in ways that are meaningful to them.
7. Connect writing and reading, so that students learn to “read as writers,” and to “write as readers.”
8. Incorporate graphic organizers to help students to interact with their reading, and record and organize their thinking about texts.
9. Help students to see themselves as successful readers, growing in confidence and competence, and setting goals to increase literacy achievement.
10. Lead students to a better understanding of how different text forms work, the characteristics, qualities, and vocabulary that are specific to each type of text they will meet.
11. Develop a literacy mandate for the entire school, with teams of teachers engaged in building competent readers and writers.
12. Celebrate literacy every day in every curriculum area by increasing and expanding school resources — books, magazines, technology, and the library.