

## Why Can't I Skip My Ten Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Let's figure it out - mathematically!

Student A reads 10 minutes five nights of every week;

Student B reads only 4 minutes a night, or not at all.

Step 1: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week.

Student A reads 10 minutes x 5 times a week = 50 minutes/week.

Student B reads 4 minutes x 5 times a week = 20 minutes.

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month.

Student A reads 200 minutes a month.

Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months/school year.

Student A reads 1800 min. in a school year.

Student B reads 720 minutes in a school year.

By the end of 6th grade if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits,

Student A will have read the equivalent of 30 whole school days.

Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance.

How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

Some questions to ponder:

Which student would you expect to read better?

Which student would you expect to know more?

Which student would you expect to write better?

Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?

Which student would you expect to be more successful in school and in life?



## Why Can't I Skip My Twenty Minutes of Reading Tonight?

Let's figure it out - mathematically!

Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week;

Student B reads only 4 minutes a night, or not at all.

Step 1: Multiply minutes a night  $\times$  5 times each week.

Student A reads 20 minutes  $\times$  5 times a week = 100 minutes/week.

Student B reads 4 minutes  $\times$  5 times a week = 20 minutes.

Step 2: Multiply minutes a week  $\times$  4 weeks each month.

Student A reads 400 minutes a month.

Student B reads 80 minutes a month.

Step 3: Multiply minutes a month  $\times$  9 months/school year.

Student A reads 3600 minutes = 60 hours in a school year.

Student B reads 720 minutes = 12 hours in a school year - or less.

By the end of 6th grade if Student A and Student B maintain  
these same reading habits,

Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days.

Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.

One would expect the gap of information retained will have  
widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance.  
How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

Some questions to ponder:

Which student would you expect to read better?

Which student would you expect to know more?

Which student would you expect to write better?

Which student would you expect to have a better vocabulary?

Which student would you expect to be more successful in school and in life?



## Why it is important to read to your child

Children who are read to have more extensive listening and speaking vocabularies.  
Children who are read to have better comprehension skills when they read to themselves.  
They are much more likely to do well in school.

## Why it is important for your child to read at home

We all understand that it is important to practice to do well at sports.

Parents take their children to hockey practice, to gymnastics or ballet lessons. Practice makes perfect.

It is the same with reading - but more important!  
Children who practice their reading will be better students.

Good readers will find school easy and fun.

Set aside time each day for reading.

Parents can make it more fun by reading together, sometimes taking turns or reading at the same time.

Choose books by the Goldilocks method - the best books for your child to read are not too hard and not too easy - they have perhaps one word in twenty that the child does not recognize or cannot decode. Just tell the child the word and let him/her go on reading. Make reading a happy experience that you both enjoy!



# Reading Log for the month of \_\_\_\_\_

Read 20 minutes each night.

Write the title of the book you read next to the day's date.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

At the end of the month turn in your log for a new bookmark.

Date:

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
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31. \_\_\_\_\_

You did it! Turn in your log to the teacher.

