

Rocket's Summer Reading Challenge 2017



Dear Cody Families,

Sunny summer days are just around the corner! Days will be filled with gorgeous weather, bike rides, ballgames, vacations and poolside play! As much as we all appreciate the break in schedule and routine, for some, it will bring a summer slide that will have a negative impact on the reading gains children made during the school year. It is our goal for Cody students to maintain the literacy skills they have acquired this year and truly develop into

lifelong, lovers of books and reading! In order to avoid summer slide, Rocket would like to invite **ALL** Cody kids to join **"Rocket's Summer Reading Challenge 2017!"**

There are no prizes, no time limits, no restrictions or rules. Everyone who reads is a **WINNER**, parents included! The only expectation of this challenge is to **set a goal and strive towards it!!! Rocket's dream is to have every student reading something every single day!!!!** Nationally known Book Whisperer, Donalyn Miller, states the following: ***"THE ONLY READING GOALS THAT SHOULD MATTER ARE THE GOALS WE SET FOR OURSELVES. Reading changes your life. Reading unlocks worlds unknown or forgotten, taking travelers around the world and through time. Reading helps you escape the confines of school and pursue your own education. Through characters – the saints and the sinners, real or imagined – reading shows you how to be a better human being."***

– Donalyn Miller, The Book Whisperer: Awakening the Inner Reader in Every Child.

Also, there is alarming screen time research from Iowa State University, ***"Children average more than 40 hours of screen time a week, not counting time spent on a computer at school, even small changes can make a difference, researchers said. They are not suggesting parents completely eliminate screen time, but find a healthy balance. (<http://www.news.iastate.edu/news/2014/03/31/parentalmonitoring>)."***

In order to support matching students with good fit books, and providing opportunities to confer with others, some Cody Staff and Rocket have agreed to be present at the LeClaire Library on Tuesdays from 10:00 a.m. to Noon, and on Thursdays from 3:00-7:00. with our Reading Corps volunteer, Paul DelCorso (AKA: Papa Dell) . If you feel you would like your child to attend one or both of these sessions, please email:

adamsteri@pleasval.k12.ia.us

no later than Thursday, May 26, so you continue to receive updates about our efforts in case of schedule changes.

Even if you don't want to be included in the library communications, we hope you consider the following:

- Set a reading goal and strive towards it
- Read EVERY DAY
- Read out of your comfort zone by trying different genres (fantasy, fiction, non-fiction, poetry or historical fiction).
- Follow along with an audio book
- Establish a collection of favorite authors, words, or favorite poems

- Read and Rate: set goal, list titles and comments on these [logs](#)
- Limit screen time

Feel free to contact me if you have any concerns or questions: adamsteri@pleasval.k12.ia.us as I will be checking emails daily.

HAPPY READING!!!!

Together in literacy,

Teri Adams & Rocket

Cody's Reading Specialist