

# Parent Resources

## 1. **Reading Plus:** [www.readingplus.com/users](http://www.readingplus.com/users)

- *Reading Plus*® is a web-based reading intervention that uses technology to provide individualized scaffolded silent reading practice for students in grade 3 and higher. *Reading Plus*® aims to develop and improve students' silent reading fluency, comprehension, and vocabulary.
- Reading Plus can be accessed using any computer with internet access.
- Southwood Middle School provides access to the computer lab for Reading Plus every Wednesday and Thursday from 8:30-9:00 am.
- Site Code: SWOOD

## 2. **FCAT Task Cards:** <http://languageartsreading.dadeschools.net>

- FCAT Task Cards provide an opportunity for students and parents to become familiar with the types of questions that are asked on FCAT 2.0.
- FCAT Task Cards are question stems based on the 13 tested benchmarks.
- Parents can create questions, using the task cards, for any type of media (e.g. books, movies, television shows, websites, etc.).

## 3. **FCAT Sample Tests:** <http://fcats.fldoe.org/fcat2/fcatitem.asp>

- The FCAT 2.0 Sample Questions and Answer Key Books are produced to prepare students to take the tests in mathematics (grades 3-8) and reading (grades 3-10).
- The **Sample Question Books** are designed to help students become familiar with FCAT 2.0 questions and to offer students practice answering questions in different formats.
- Parents can use the **Sample Answer Books** to help guide their children in identifying the correct answers to the questions.

## 4. **M-DCPS Parent Resource Center:** <http://parents.dadeschools.net/parentresources/default.asp>

- The Parent Resource Center offers a wealth of information to keep parents fully informed and fully engaged in their child's academic endeavors.

## 5. **The Parent Academy:** <http://theparentacademy.dadeschools.net/index.htm>

- The Parent Academy offers free resources and workshops for parents who want to become more involved in their child's education.

## Help Improve Your Child's Reading Skills



1. Set aside a regular time to read to your children every day.
2. Surround your children with reading material.
3. Have a family reading time.
4. Encourage a wide variety of reading activities.
5. Develop the library habit.
6. Be knowledgeable about your child's progress.
7. Look for reading problems.
8. Get help promptly for reading problems.
9. Use a variety of aids to help your children.
10. Show enthusiasm for your child's reading.

Source: <http://school.familyeducation.com>

## Tips For Struggling Readers

*Would your child rather clean the entire house than pick up a book? These five tips can help you get your child back on the right reading track.*

1. Make reading relaxing and low-key for a short part of the day.
2. Read aloud some funny or interesting parts of your favorite book.
3. Draw your child in with a riddle book for kids, a passage from a magazine, or a newspaper story.
4. If your kid likes a movie, see if it's based on a book, then bring home the book.
5. For kids who have lost the motivation to read, use material that's intensely interesting to them.

Source: <http://school.familyeducation.com>

