



Pledge Cards for Parents

I, _____ understand that

- I am my child's first teacher.
- Reading is key to my child's success in school and in life.
- I can help my child develop brain power with the activities I provide outside of school.
- Every day my children miss school, they are losing a chance to learn.

I pledge to:

- Read, talk, and sing to my child every day.
- Encourage play that involves naming and describing.
- Encourage my children to ask questions about things they see: What? Why? How? What if?
- Teach my children to love reading by having books in our home.
- Take my children to the library every week to pick out books they want to read.
- Help my children develop the habit of on-time attendance.
- Talk to my child's teacher regularly on how we can help at home.
- Talk to other parents in my community about the importance of reading.

My child's name: _____ Date: _____

Signature: _____





Practical Tips

You don't always need to read. A child's love of reading grows from language, knowledge, and interest.

- Find after-school activities that promote reading and learning.
- Help your children develop the habit of on-time attendance.
- Tell your own stories using pictures in books, magazines, and newspapers.
- Watch and discuss educational TV together, such as nature programs and public television.
- Talk with your children while you're cooking, shopping, or walking with them.
- Get library cards for every family member. Make reading a part of family life.
- Tell stories about something that happened when you were young.
- Before reading, share the cover and title of the book. Ask your child to guess what's inside.
- While you read, pause often to ask and answer questions.
- When reading with your child, take turns reading sentences and paragraphs. If your child makes a mistake, don't interrupt. Wait your turn and then make your point.
- After reading, talk to your child about the story and ask what made it interesting.
- Always praise your child's efforts and progress.
- Honor homework time and make a special place for your child to study and learn.
- Make these activities a regular and happy part of your child's daily life.