

Research Triangle Charter Academy

Dec 14, 2018
October-Dec Issue

Seven Tips For Reading While On Winter Break

Holiday breaks and chilly winter weekends offer the perfect excuse to encourage kids to snuggle under a warm blanket with a cup of hot cocoa and their favorite book. And whether your child is an enthusiastic bookworm or a little less excited about the whole idea, these suggestions are designed to help keep them turning the pages (and maybe even enjoying it!) over the break from school.

1. Try a reading challenge. Both my six- and ten-year-old are now voracious readers, but I wasn't always sure it would be so. When my ten-year-old was first learning to read, it took a lot of encouragement to motivate her to read aloud — she much preferred sitting back while she was read to! To help her overcome her reluctance I did two things. First, I made sure that we had [fun books on the shelves](#) that she could read with a relative degree of independence. (Check out our top [book recommendations for kids ages 6 to 7.](#))

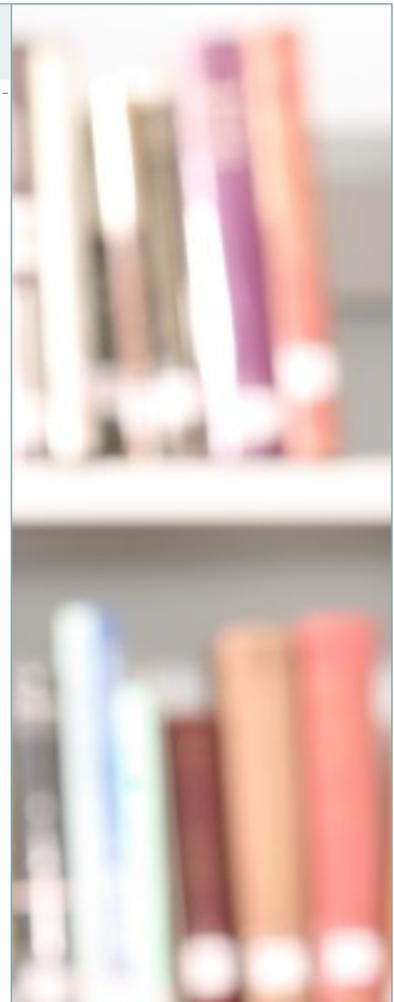
Next, I challenged her to read 20 minutes a day. Many children respond well to a little competitive challenge, and research has found that reading just 20 minutes a day exposes children to 1.8 million words a year and dramatically improves standardized test scores. If you prefer, ask your child to read a certain number of pages per day.

2. Hook kids with a book set. What better time than the holidays to gift your child a complete set of books to keep them reading? My 'Miss 10' suggests you can't do better than the [Wings of Fire set](#) (for kids in third to sixth grade) — she is literally counting the days until the next book in the series is released. If, however, dragons aren't your thing (gasp!), you can browse a heap more [book set suggestions for children of all ages.](#)

3. Share similar titles. If your child has a book or book series that he already really enjoys, consider a "read-alike" — those are books that explore the same [genre](#), or a similar subject or storyline. For example, check out these suggestions related to three popular middle grade reads:

[What to Read Next If Your Child Loved *Wonder*](#)
[What to Read After the *Diary of the Wimpy Kid* Series](#)

[What to Read Next If Your Child Loved *A Wrinkle in Time*](#)



STUDENT CREED

We are Research Triangle Students.

We strive to achieve academic
excellence.

We exemplify high moral character.

We strive to realize our potential.

We work diligently to prepare for
the future.

ADMIN TEAM TO SERVE YOU

- Wayne Muhammad, Principal
- Erin Huckel, Dean of K-2/
Specials
- Wintre Shaw, Dean of 3-5/EC
- Jamila Bowser, Dean of 6-8/
Title I Intervention
- Jacquetta Williams, Social
Worker



SEVEN TIPS FOR READING WHILE ON WINTER BREAK (CONT.)

4. Find other books or series by an author your child already enjoys. For example, once my daughter moved on from Rachel Renee Russell's [Dork Diaries series](#), I was pretty confident that she would become fan of [The Misadventures of Max Crumbly: Locker Hero](#), the first book in the Misadventures of Max Crumbly series, by the same author...and I was right!

5. Don't forget non-fiction! If your child is super passionate about science, nature, history or geography, be sure to [check out non-fiction titles](#) related to her interest. Or, hook kids with the wild, wacky and wonderful achievements hiding between the pages of the annual [Guinness World Records](#) book.

6. Take reading on the road. Traveling during the winter break? Don't forget to pack a paperback for the journey or try an [audiobook](#). Audiobooks offer a novel way to re-visit a much-loved title or to try something new. Check out the suggestions in this [age-by-age guide to the best audiobooks for kids](#) to get you started.

7. Finally, make time to read together as a family. Kids of all ages love it when their parents read aloud to them. Start out by choosing a book the whole family will enjoy, and then commit to making time each day to slow down, snuggle together and enjoy the closeness of reading together.

There are no secrets to success. It is the result of preparation, hard work, and learning from failure.” – Colin Powell

RTCA BASKETBALL SEASON IN FULL SWING!!!

Our boys and girls basketball teams are hitting the hardwood weekly taking on our most notable opponents within our PIAC conference! Here are our next few big games:

- 12/14 at Maureen Joy
- 12/17 Home vs. PreEminent
- 12/18 away @ Word of God
- 12/20 home vs. KIPP Durham
- 01/08 home vs. Maureen Joy
- 1/10 away @ PreEminent
- 1/14 home vs. Healthy Start
- 1/15 away @ Carter Community

WINTER CONCERT SET FOR NEXT WEEK!

The Research Triangle Charter Academy Music Department will present the first concert of the 2018-2019 school year on **Tuesday, December 18th, 2018 at 6:00 pm in the Research Triangle Charter Academy Gym.**

The Program will lead the ensemble in a wide range of musical fare. The concert will commence with an opening of songs based on themes from popular winter tunes, performed by the RTCA Treblemakers, Vocal Rhapsody Advanced Chorus, Concert band, and Eagle Regiment Band”. Students will be joined by guest performers, who have worked tirelessly to present this program to you.

The concert includes a variety of elegant arrangement of pieces from purely instrumental music and delightful choral arrangements, to scholar solos, ensemble and more. The evening's production will include winter favorites and musical classics. Filled with a huge assortment of unusual percussion instruments, glorious brass fanfares and delightful woodwind sounds, the RTCA Winter concert is sure to touch every person that attends.

Please make plans to join us for this wonderful show!!

The concert is free of charge and tickets are not required. For additional information or donation please contact Miss Boschulte at 40.LBOSCHULTE@nhaschools.com



Parent Volunteer Nicole Cole assists with traffic duty every morning and afternoon! What a fine example she sets for parents who love RTCA!

PARENT VOLUNTEERS MAKE RTCA STRONG

Parent Volunteers provide much needed help to our school and offer assistance in many needed areas. There are parents in the building helping conduct literacy testing, assisting children with reading, conducting small groups, grading papers for teachers, making copies for teachers, assisting with lunch duty, doing concessions at basketball games, and a host of other things.

As a school that values parent partnerships, we encourage you to get involved and become more engaged with Research Triangle Charter Academy. [To volunteer, see our registrar Shannon Tabron for a volunteer form or go online to our school website and go in to your parent portal log in, click forms, and you'll see the volunteer form!](#)

When It's Urgent and We Need to Reach You

We have a parent notification system called SchoolMessenger. This is what Principal Muhammad has been using all school year to send emails, text messages, and phone calls to parents.

To receive text messages from us: 1. Check the parent portal on the school website and contact the school office to make sure we have your correct cell phone number. 2. Then text YES from your cell phone to 68453.

YOU'LL RECEIVE A VERIFICATION MESSAGE. It's that simple.

With MORE possible closings and delays due to weather upcoming, we encourage you to sign up!