Additional Resources

TNPTA Education Committee
Web Portal
tnpta.org/index.php/web-portal-2/

National PTA Family Reading Experience
ptat.org/home/programs/family-reading

The Children’s Reading Foundation
www.readingfoundation.org

Reading Is Fundamental, Inc.
www.rif.org

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Heart to Heart Read with Me Week
February 13-17, 2023
READ WITH ME READ WITH YOUR CHILD

“From kindergarten through third grade, children learn to read. Thereafter, they read to learn.”
--Tennessee PTA Position Statement

Heart to Heart Read with Me is an initiative from the Tennessee PTA for both local and council PTA units and parents and guardians. For parents and guardians, consider having a reading time with your children. For local units and councils, consider having reading programs or have a literacy presentation at a general meeting.

SOME IDEAS FOR PTAS AND FAMILIES

- Participate in the 300 Hours of Literacy Tennessee PTA certificate program.
- Appoint a literacy/reading committee chair.
- Host a family reading night as a PTA general meeting program or a “Pajama Reading Night”
- Host a “Breakfast and Read” with a light breakfast before school and focus on reading 20 minutes before the school day starts.
- Bring in author for a meeting.
- Parents and guardians create a reading time each week for their children.
- Give books as gifts that you plan to read together.

IMPORTANCE OF READING

- Research shows that when families read together, learning happens, and memories are made that last a lifetime.
- We can eliminate illiteracy when our school districts publicly commit to teach 90% of their students to read at grade level by third grade and then systematically realign their assessments, curriculum, instructional time, reporting system, and available resources to achieve this goal.
- With a high degree of assurance, we can teach more children to read at grade level by third grade, at a fraction of the social cost to the child and the economic cost to our society, than by teaching them to read when they are middle school students, high school students or adults.
- Share the love of reading with your family. In addition to reading with your child, create a space in your home that you read together. Talk about each book, what you like and don’t like about its characters, and take guesses on what will happen next. Even when your kids are older, enjoying a conversation about a good book is something they’ll never outgrow.