

Why Your Child Should Read for 20 Minutes Every Day!

Let's figure it out--mathematically!

**Student A reads 20 minutes five nights of every week;
Student B reads only 4 minutes...or not at all!**

1st: Multiply minutes a night x 5 times each week.

**Student A reads 20 minutes x 5 times a week = 100 minutes per week.
Student B reads 4 minutes x 5 times a week = 20 minutes per week.**

2nd: Multiply minutes a week x 4 weeks each month.

**Student A reads 400 minutes a month.
Student B reads 80 minutes a month.**

3rd: Multiply minutes a month x 9 months of school per year.

**Student A reads 3600 minutes in a school year.
Student B reads 720 minutes in a school year.**

Student A practices the equivalent of ten whole school days a year.
Student B gets the equivalent of only two school days of reading practice.

By the end of 6th grade, if Student A and Student B maintain these same reading habits[:]

**Student A will have read the equivalent of 60 whole school days.
Student B will have read the equivalent of only 12 school days.**

One would expect the gap of information retained will have widened considerably and so, undoubtedly, will school performance. How do you think Student B will feel about him/herself as a student?

Think about it:

Which student would you expect to...

read better?

know more?

write better?

have a better vocabulary?

be more successful in school...and in life?

(Source: U.S. Dept. of Education, America Reads Challenge. (1999)
"Start Early, Finish Strong: How to Help Every Child Become a Reader." Washington, D. C.)