



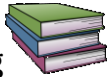
# Dawson Delivery



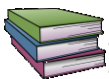
June 2016

## Ready...Set...Read!!!

By: Shamar D. Dawson  
Dawson 101

**E**xtra, extra, read all about it! No, really, let's read all about it! Read stories about journeys and adventures to faraway lands, magical beings, kid detectives solving mysteries, or stories of important people and places of history, etc.! With the arrival of summer break, your child has quite a bit of free time on their hands, with school not in session. Why not, continue to build upon their reading skills by completing some summer reading? 

**P**arents often ask me how they can help their children with reading. It is a very good question to ask, for reading is such an essential skill needed for school success—and in life. Since reading is so vital to success in school, parents can and should play a role in helping their children to become interested in reading and in encouraging their growth in reading skills. As the old saying goes, "**Reading is fundamental!**" It is the key to lifelong learning.

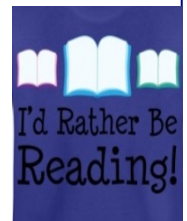


**E**xperts have concluded that children who still struggle in the area of reading by the third grade are at greater risk of not developing reading proficiency. *(continued on page 2)*

## 5 Ways Parents Can Help Their Children With Reading

### 1. Be a Good Role Model

Allow your children to see you read, for pleasure. This could be books/magazines/newspaper that you read for leisure. Discuss the similarities and differences between your book and books that your children are reading. Also take the time to share with them some of your favorite books that you read during your childhood. There are many classics that are still in circulation; you may be surprised to discover that you and your child may share some favorites!



### 2. Make It Routine

Make reading a part of your family's daily life. Establish a time each day when everyone turns off the TV, games, and computer, and pick up a good book to read (at least 30 minutes). After 'reading time' is over, have a brief discussion about what you read.

### 3. Read Aloud to Them

This simple task can have a significant impact for you and your child. You may think that the older kids are 'too big' to be read aloud to, but believe me they aren't! You'd be surprised to see the excitement on the faces of my 5<sup>th</sup> graders, as I am reading aloud to them in an engaging manner. Even after children learn to read independently, it is still important for them to hear reading modeled correctly.

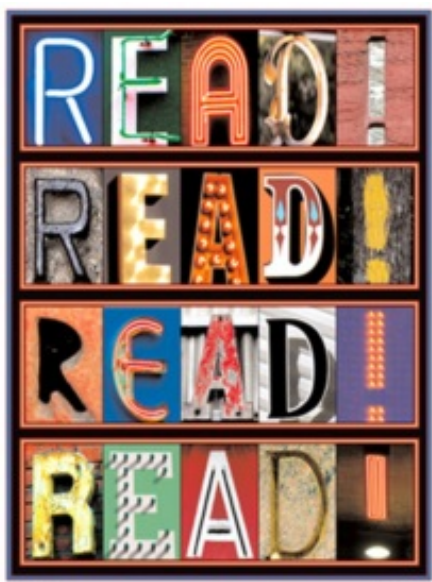
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## Ready...Set...Read!!! (cont.)

Yet, children who have not mastered reading by middle school can *still* be taught to be proficient readers; however, they will require a greater intensity and individualized instruction.



As discussed in the May 2016 edition of the [Dawson Delivery](#), [Planning Your Summer](#), many students lose about **one to two months** of acquired reading skills during their break. Here's 5 ways parents can help their children with reading over the summer. Happy Reading!



*\*See page 3-4 for a list of my favorite books for grades K-6!*

## 5 Ways Parents Can Help Their Children With Reading (cont.)

### 4. Have Them Read Aloud to You

Having your child read aloud to you has many benefits. One of the greatest benefits is that reading aloud improves fluency. Fluency when reading is essential when it comes to building confident readers. They establish a good sense of speed and prosody (reading with emotion), which in turns helps readers to better comprehend the story. While your child is reading aloud, you might hear them struggling, then you are able to quickly assist them by showing them how to correctly pronounce a word or explain what the word means---helping to build vocabulary.



### 5. Ask Questions

Keep in mind that reading is more than just sounding out words. Students should understand what they are reading. When your child reads, get them to summarize (or retell) the story or information. Whether it is fiction or non-fiction content, you can ask questions, referring to what we call the 5 W's & 1 H questions: Who? What? When? Where? Why? & How? By doing this, you can help build your child's comprehension level.

## Dawson's Favorite Books for Grades K-6

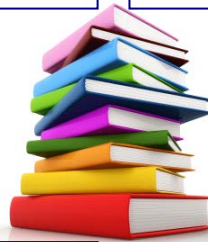
(Click on each book title to see order info from Amazon)

### Kindergarten

- [\*\*When I Was Five\*\*](#) by Arthur Howard  
(Great for learning sight words and using picture cues.)
- [\*\*Green Eggs and Ham\*\*](#) by Dr. Seuss  
(Great for rhyming & phonics instruction.)
- [\*\*Go, Dog. Go!\*\*](#) by P.D. Eastman  
(Great for teaching verbal expression & increasing oral fluency.)
- [\*\*Clifford the Big Red Dog\*\*](#) by Norman Bridwell  
(Great for teaching how to recognize, read, and pronounce plural forms of words & contractions.)
- [\*\*My Crayons Talk\*\*](#) by Patricia Hubbard  
(Great for teaching color words, rhyming words, & dialogue.)

### 1st Grade

- [\*\*Click, Clack, Moo\*\*](#) by Doreen Cronin  
(Great for
- [\*\*Can I Play Too?\*\*](#) by Mo Willems  
(Great for
- [\*\*The Grouchy Ladybug\*\*](#) by Eric Carle  
(Great for
- [\*\*Henry & Mudge \(series\)\*\*](#) by Cynthia Rylant  
(Great for beginning chapter books)
- [\*\*Nate The Great \(series\)\*\*](#) by Majorie Sharmat  
(Great for beginning chapter books.)



### 2nd Grade

- [\*\*The Snowy Day\*\*](#) by Ezra Jack Keats
- [\*\*Magic Tree House \(series\)\*\*](#) by Mary Pope Osborne
- [\*\*Bootsie Barker Bites\*\*](#) by Barbara Bottner
- [\*\*Junie B. Jones \(series\)\*\*](#) by Barbara Park
- [\*\*Flat Stanley \(series\)\*\*](#) by Jeff Brown & Lori Haskins Houran

### 3rd Grade

- [\*\*Class Clown\*\*](#) by Johanna Hurwitz
- [\*\*My Weird School Daze \(series\)\*\*](#) by Dan Gutman
- [\*\*Something Beautiful\*\*](#) by Sharon Dennis Wyeth
- [\*\*Amber Brown \(series\)\*\*](#) by Paula Danziger
- [\*\*The Other Side\*\*](#) by Jacqueline Woodson

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## Dawson's Favorite Books for Grades K-6 (Cont.)

(Click on each book title to see order info from Amazon)

### 4th Grade

- [\*\*Tales of the Fourth Grade Nothing\*\*](#) by Judy Blume
- [\*\*Encyclopedia Brown \(series\)\*\*](#) by Donald J. Sobol
- [\*\*Goosebumps \(Series\)\*\*](#) by R.L. Stine
- [\*\*Ramona \(series\)\*\*](#) by Beverly Cleary
- [\*\*Because of Winn-Dixie\*\*](#) by Kate DiCamillo

### 5th Grade

- [\*\*Number The Stars\*\*](#) by Lois Lowry
- [\*\*No Talking\*\*](#) by Andrew Clements
- [\*\*Holes\*\*](#) by Louis Sachar
- [\*\*Judy Moody \(series\)\*\*](#) by Megan McDonald
- [\*\*The Lion, The Witch, & The Wardrobe\*\*](#) by C.S. Lewis



### 6<sup>th</sup> Grade

- [\*\*The Great Gilly Hopkins\*\*](#) by Katherine Paterson
- [\*\*Harry Potter \(series\)\*\*](#) by J.K. Rowling
- [\*\*Matilda\*\*](#) by Roald Dahl
- [\*\*Maniac Magee\*\*](#) by Jerry Spinelli
- [\*\*Diary of a Wimpy Kid \(series\)\*\*](#) by Jeff Kinney

### Favorite Authors

- [\*\*Christopher Paul Curtis\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Patricia Polacco\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Andrew Clements\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Lois Lowry\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Beverly Cleary\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Roald Dahl\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Louis Sachar\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Jerry Spinelli\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Barbara Park\*\*](#)
- [\*\*David A. Adler\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Chris Van Allsburg\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Dan Gutman\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Geronimo Stilton\*\*](#)
- [\*\*Jacqueline Woodson\*\*](#)

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