



# Let's Start with a Book

*It is not enough to simply teach children to read; we have to give them something worth reading. Something that will stretch their imaginations—something that will help them make sense of their own lives and encourage them to reach out toward people whose lives are quite different from their own. —Katherine Patterson*

This initiative began in order to promote literacy and independent reading in all grade levels and nurture student's academic achievement in reading. At the Department of Education of Puerto Rico and the English Program hope to motivate students to develop an intrinsic love for reading that will last a lifetime.

## Book Displays (All Levels)

Create a poster board or wall full of drawings, quotes and text of a book or books. The poster board should represent the essence of the book of your choosing.

## Share your Favorite Story Day (K-12)

Your favorite story can be as brief as a short story or as extensive as a novel series, it can be fiction or nonfiction, a tall tale or folklore. No matter what the story is, we can share our favorite story to discuss why we love it the most, which characters we identify with, and which places (imaginary or realistic) we would love to visit.

**What can we do to show appreciation of our favorite story?**

- Create a comic of a scene from the story
- Create your favorite story's movie poster
- Invite grandparents or other special guests to the school to read a story
- Host a story sharing breakfast
- Give your favorite story a twist ending

## Read Aloud (K-5)

From novels to news reports, read alouds help a community bond together, and acquire knowledge in different topics.

**Teachers will use read alouds to:**

- Create a class bond among students and the teachers
- Nurture a love for reading
- Preview information, themes, or text structures
- Model effective reading
- Show how texts connect with one another
- Explore different genres for writing

**How to carry out a Read Aloud activity:**

1. Plan time for a session (15-20 minutes)
2. Choose a story: it must be meaningful to the students and relatable to their grade level

3. Preview the book to anticipate the student's questions and reactions
4. Introduce the text to the class: draw inferences from the book's cover, images, titles and headings and provide a brief explanation on why you chose this reading
5. Read with emotion, intonation, expression and sound effects
6. Assess: Ask open-ended questions, discuss favorite parts and encourage discussion

## Book Talks (6-12)

Book talks are all about using persuasion to convince other people to read a book in your repertoire.

### Recommended Activity:

1. Book Talk Presentation: Students can read aloud a passage (not the ending), give out bookmarks related to the book and explain why others should read that book just like giving a sales pitch.
2. Note how many students were convinced by the presenter and have them evaluate what they think of the book after the presentation. Create a presentation board with a list of all the books and have each student put a sticker star next to the name.
3. Ask students if the stars represent the books that they found the most convincing to read, would they read those books and why.

<https://www.weareteachers.com/what-is-a-book-talk/>

## Drop Everything and Read Day – DEAR (All levels)

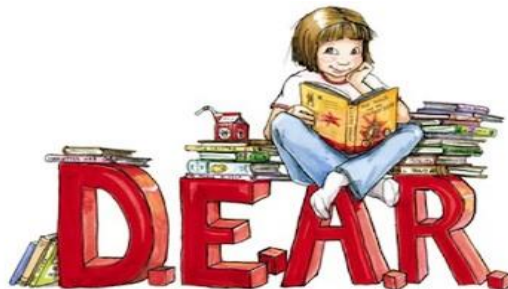
Students will pick any book that they found interesting over the course of the week and read it for at least 30 minutes. Students will engage in silent reading in an agreed place of quiet, security and comfort.

You can provide a certificate to those who have successfully completed the Drop Everything and Read Day in its entirety.

**English teachers the English Program and ORE facilitators selected Wednesday 15, at 9:00 a. m. Coordinate with the librarian. Everyone can participate!**

<https://www.readingrockets.org/calendar/dear>

<http://www.dropeverythingandread.com/NationalDEARday.html>



<https://www.beverlycleary.com/dear-day>