



Reading Public Schools English Learner Department



JANUARY 2019 NEWSLETTER

Reading Public Library

The Reading Public Library is a great place for families to borrow books and help your child develop a love for reading. Reading will help your child learn more English and to be successful in school. The library has wonderful things for your child to enjoy.

Website link for the Reading Public Library
<http://www.readingpl.org/service/using-the-library/>

The Reading Public Library is a member of the Noble network and this allows for families to have access to a larger variety of books. You can order books online and pick them up at the library!

The North Of Boston Library Exchange (NOBLE) is a cooperative effort of 28 area libraries founded to improve library service through automation. Seventeen public library members, ten academic libraries and one special library are members of NOBLE.

IMPORTANT DATES

Early January- Early February:
students will be taking the ACCESS test

January 21 :

No School M.L. King Jr. Day

February 19-22 :

No school February Vacation

ACCESS Testing



ACCESS for **ELLs** stands for Assessing Comprehension and Communication in English.

The standardized test for English learners will be administered during January and February. The test has 4 parts: reading, writing, speaking, and listening. These tests are given in four separate sessions and will be completed online, or online and on paper.

We have been working with the students helping them to prepare for the testing. We will help them to become familiar with the test, using technology, and help them feel comfortable and confident about taking the test. The results of your child's test will help us teach a curriculum that will help your child succeed at learning English. Results of this test will be available late May and the scores will be mailed home.

This link provides helpful information about the ACCESS test from the Massachusetts Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

<http://www.doe.mass.edu/mcas/access/Parent-Report.pdf>

Before Test Tips!

- **Make sure your child gets a good night's sleep**
- **Eat a healthy breakfast**
- **Remain positive**

The ACCESS for ELLs test:

- Shows how well your child is learning English
- Tests students in kindergarten to grade 12 each January who are English language learners (ELL) in reading, writing, speaking, and listening.

Raising Readers

Helping your child develop a love for reading can be started at any age even before they begin school. It is important for your child to know the alphabet and understand the sounds that the letters make. When your child knows these well they can become successful in school with literacy. You are a part of their success!

Ways that families can help to raise readers

Provide a space at home for children's books

Engage in storytelling with your child




Write notes to one another (leave notes in lunchbox, in a room, etc.)

Visit the public library

Bilingualism is a Gift!

Cognitive benefits **Social-emotional benefits** **Learning benefits** **Global benefits**

Commonly asked questions:

 Do we need to speak English at home?	Use the languages most comfortable for you!
 But my child has a language delay.	Children with delays CAN learn more than one language.
 Will my child be confused?	Your child will not be confused! Children's brains are flexible.

Use your home language every day in everything you do!

Read **Play games** **Cook** **Solve problems** **Sing** **Observe nature**

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Sources: HEAD START <http://nclkc.ore.acehhs.gov/hslc/ta-system/cultural-linguistic/home-language.html>
THE HANEN CENTRE <http://www.hanen.org/Helpful-Info/Articles/Can-children-with-language-impairments-learn-two-l.aspx>

ONLINE RESOURCES

For younger English learners <http://www.starfall.com/>

Online games for learning English for kids and teenagers <http://www.eslgamesplus.com/>

Curriculum based games for English learners <http://www.jumpstart.com/parents/games/english-games>

Ways to help your child learn English <http://esl-kids.com/>

Great reading tips to help your child with English <http://www.readingrockets.org/reading-topics/english-language-learners>

If you have access to the internet you can find books online translated into many languages.

Online source for translated books <http://www.childrensbooksonline.org/library-translations.htm>

Link to help your child become a strong reader:

<http://www.getreadytoread.org/early-learning-childhood-basics/early-literacy/promoting-family-literacy-raising-ready-readers>

Website link for a great parent resource for children who are learning English: <http://www.colorincolorado.org/>

Please contact us if you have any questions!

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