

Overview

Need/Problem:

How do we encourage reluctant readers to read?

Objectives:

To design a reading program for Grade 9 Essential English students, followed by daily implementation of reading.

Methodology:

See "Our Reading Program"

Outcome:

We experienced tremendous success. 11 out of 13 students achieved the classroom goal of reading 5 books and incredibly, 7 of those students continued to read 10 or more novels within 2 ½ months period.

Conclusion:

Our reading program for reluctant readers was successful. We have decided to continue the reading program 2nd semester.

Overall,
13 students
read

113

books.

Our Reading Program

- Created list of all Orca Series novels in our school library.
- Introduced Orca Series to Grade 9 Essential English students.
- Insisted that all students select one novel to silent read in class every morning.
- Created display board as visual motivator.
- Once student finished reading a novel, they:
 - completed book report
 - signed display board beside book title
 - placed sticker beside their name to show running total of books read
- Treat reward packages were offered after:
 - 5 books read
 - 10 books read

"This is the first book that I have read that I liked." - Tony

"I just finished reading "Truth". It was great. It kept me on the edge of my seat." - Waverli

"I have never read 10 books in my life! They were good." - Josh

"I have never read this many books before. I really like "Lockdown". It was cool." - Taylor

"These books were good. I really liked reading them." - Richard

Why Did Our Reading Program Work?

- 1) Topics and content included teens and issues they deal with daily.

Eg. Drinking and house parties
Drugs
Racism
Teen pregnancy
Bullying
Death of family member
Shootings/killing
School lockdown

All taking place in
Canadian cities.

Therefore, the topics were of interest to teens.

- 2) Book reading and student reading levels both were between Grades 2-4. Therefore, reading was manageable and students could understand what they were reading.

In conclusion, both interesting topics and reading manageability kept students reading. Also, the treat reward packages were motivators for some students.