

GRIM STATS ON THE STATE OF READING IN THE U.S.

PLUS 6 TIPS FOR PARENTS & TEACHERS
FOR ENCOURAGING READING

The numbers tracking reading proficiency and engagement in the U.S. are grim.

But these statistics also offer a glimmer of hope, in the form of research-driven tactics that teachers and parents can use to improve students' reading scores and engagement.

66%

of 8th graders tested
"below proficient"
in reading.

Source: NAEP / nationsreportcard.gov, 2015

24TH
PLACE

the U.S. is ranked 24th out of the 65 countries in the Program for International Student Assessment (PISA) Reading Literacy rankings.

Source: National Center for Education Statistics

27%

of American adults
have not read a book
in the past year.

Source: Pew Research, 2015

54%

of American adults read
fewer than six
books per year.

Source: Source: Pew Research, 2014

3x

as many Americans
don't read (27%)
vs. 1978 statistics (8%)

Source: Pew Research, 2015

TEACHERS AND PARENTS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

READ TO YOUR CHILDREN

83%

of children across all
age groups say they
love when their parents
read to them aloud.

Source: Scholastic Kids & Family Reading Report

LET KIDS PICK THEIR OWN BOOKS

91%

of children ages 6-17 say
"my favorite books are the
ones that I have picked out
myself."

Source: Pew Research, 2015

SET ASIDE READING TIME AT SCHOOL

52% vs. 17%

52% of students say
they love class reading time,
but only 17% say their class
does it every day.

Source: Scholastic Kids & Family Reading Report

LIMIT ELECTRONIC DEVICES

7
HOURS

is the amount of time the
average child spends in front of a
screen - every single day. Screen
time tends to push out reading
time as children get older.

Source: American Academy of Pediatrics

READ BOOKS YOURSELF!

3x

children who are
frequent readers are
3x as likely to have parents
who read frequently.

Source: Scholastic Kids & Family Reading Report

MAKE 'EM LAUGH!

70%

of kids aged 6-17 say
they want books that
make them laugh.

Source: Scholastic Kids & Family Reading Report

ADDITIONAL READING AND SOURCES:

[HTTP://WWW.SCHOLASTIC.COM/READINGREPORT/KEY-FINDINGS.HTM](http://www.scholastic.com/readingreport/key-findings.htm)

[HTTP://WWW.PEWRESEARCH.ORG/FACT-TANK/2015/10/19/SLIGHTLY-FEWER-AMERICANS-ARE-READING-PRINT-BOOKS-NEW-SURVEY-FINDS/](http://www.pewresearch.org/fact-tank/2015/10/19/slightly-fewer-americans-are-reading-print-books-new-survey-finds/)

[HTTP://WWW.THEATLANTIC.COM/BUSINESS/ARCHIVE/2014/01/THE-DECLINE-OF-THE-AMERICAN-BOOK-LOVER/28322/](http://www.theatlantic.com/business/archive/2014/01/the-decline-of-the-american-book-lover/28322/)

[HTTPS://WWW.AAP.ORG/EN-US/ADVOCACY-AND-POLICY/AAP-HEALTH-INITIATIVES/PAGES/MEDIA-AND-CHILDREN.ASPX](https://www.aap.org/en-us/advocacy-and-policy/aap-health-initiatives/pages/media-and-children.aspx)



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