



Read early. Read often.

Your child's success depends on it!



We know that children who are read to hear as many as thirty million more words than children who aren't.

We know young children who are read to are almost twice as likely to receive top reading scores.

Research shows young children with the highest exposure to reading at home have advantages in spelling and alphabet knowledge through third grade.

Thank you for volunteering to make a difference in our community as a Mobile Food Pantry Read early volunteer!

WHAT TO DO:

- ◆ **Arrange with Allison to pick up the books.** Call or email to set up a time. Pick up at 630 Harvey Street at your convenience between 8 am and 4pm, M –F.
- ◆ **Contact the Food Pantry Host:** Call the number listed on the Mobile Food Pantry Flyer. Let them know you'd like to attend and what you will be doing. Verify the time and place you should set up. Ask if they have a table or if you need to bring one.
- ◆ **Arrive at the event 60-90 minutes before the time it starts.** Most books are given away during registration, while people are waiting in line. Once the food pantry opens, people will be focused on getting food.
- ◆ **Feel free to be generous and to set limits:** Many will want to take armfuls of books. You can ask them to please take one per child the first time through the line. You can also tell them they can get in line again after everyone has had a turn. We are happy people are hungry to read to kids.
- ◆ **Thank the book recipients for reading to a child.** Less than 40% of Muskegon County 3rd graders are reading proficiently. They can help change this by reading to kids from birth. Refer to the points above. Children need words to be ready to learn when they get to school and kids who are read to everyday have 30 million more words than kids who aren't.
- ◆ **Educate about other early literacy opportunities:** Share Play and Learn Flyers, Dolly Parton Imagination Library sign up information, and refer to Read Muskegon if someone needs adult literacy help 747-7273.
- ◆ **Return remaining books to MAISD when done.**
- ◆ **Remind everyone you meet** it is never too early to start reading to children. Read early, and read often—every day, everything and everywhere.
- ◆ **Distribute Read early. Read often signs.**

Contact Allison Keessen at (231) 767-7285 or akeessen@muskegonisd.org

Check us out on www.readearly.org or
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