



READING WITH STUDENTS WHO ARE SEEMINGLY DISENGAGED*

Some readers appear disengaged due to shyness, lots of energy, or lack of familiarity with the structure of PRC reading sessions. At PRC, we are committed to an enjoyable experience for all students. Research shows that students benefit from being read to, even when engaged in other activities.

RESEARCH-BASED TIPS AND TRICKS

- Encourage the student to choose high-interest books. Your Site Coordinator will know which books are popular with students at your site.
- Have a few books in a variety of levels ready before you greet the child and begin reading together.
- Ask questions about the child's interests; this can help guide book selection.
- Ask the student how the characters might sound. Create voices for different characters.
- Encourage the child to move around or act out parts of the story while you're reading.
- Acknowledge any effort and progress the child is making during your time together.
- Model imagination by taking turns reading and acting out parts of the book.
- Read one part of a repeating phrase and then have the student "echo" the following part.
- If the student is losing interest, suggest they choose a different book.
- Always ask the child to choose whether to read to you, or have you read to them.
- Offer a time check: "We have 15 more minutes. Do you want to (offer two or three choices from above)?"