



Parents' Clipboard

SECONDARY LEVEL



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😊 Conversation... 😊 Not Interrogation

Research has long recognized the importance of parents taking an interest in their children's schooling. One key factor to keep in mind is that the most important activity in which you can engage with your students is simply talking to them. Many times, parents feel they need to drill their sons and daughters about the school day. Sharing becomes more of an interrogation period than a conversation. Try expressing your interest by genuinely inquiring about what your students find interesting or challenging about school. Share what you liked or struggled with regarding those same topics. Letting your students know that you value their ideas and opinions is more important than being sure they have the right answers!

📖 Book Ideas for Adolescents 📖

😊 *Until We Meet Again*

by Gerald Purnell © 2001.

A sequel to *A Matter of Trust*, the value of true friendship explored in this novel will appeal to both male and female readers.

😊 *The Graduation of Jake Moon*

by Barbara Park © 2002.

A touching and humorous story about the relationship between a boy and his grandfather, this book will especially appeal to middle school students.

Books selected by James Blasingame Adolescent
& Adult Literacy March 2003.

21st Century Literacy

Most parents consider the basics of education to be the familiar 3 R's: reading, 'riting and 'rithmetic. Recently, a nationally recognized business leader emphasized the importance of the 3 T's: thinking, technology and teamwork. Parents can help their students develop these critical T's .

✓ Thinking – ask questions that have no "right" answer. Instead of asking "What are the nine planets?" try "Which planet do you think is most fascinating? Why?"

✓ Technology – if possible, make sure your students have time at home to use technology to help them seek and display information. Computers, calculators, digital cameras, CDs and DVDs, and scanners are an integral part of literacy today.

✓ Teamwork – emphasize the importance of collaborating with others. Look for opportunities to compliment your student because he or she exhibited good "people skills" – or the ability to work with others to solve a problem. Today, very few careers are "one man" enterprises. The business world highly values the ability to work successfully in teams.

3 T's from August 1,2003 presentation
by Mr. Jamie Vollmer – Breckenridge, CO

Thought for the Day

"Learning makes a man
fit company for himself."

Thomas Fuller