

What is YOUR reading routine?

rou·tine

[roo-teen]—*noun*

1.

a customary or regular course of procedure.

Do you and your child have a reading routine? Is there a regular time in your day when reading is the activity taking place? Perhaps at bedtime? In the car? Right after written homework is completed? Before school? Every day? Most days? Is reading routine in your home?

For many children, especially reluctant readers, it is helpful to make reading a routine part of your day. We do it here at Monroe Elementary School. Every morning when students arrive, they settle in with a good book. During the reading block, they are also participating in reading activities, usually beginning with a read aloud by the teacher. In some classrooms there are reading centers and opportunities to buddy read. Students know what is expected of them at these times and they actively participate. Making reading a part of your home routine can help turn a reluctant reader into an avid one.

Helpful hints for developing a reading routine:

- *Find a time that will consistently work. Encourage your child to participate in the decision making.
- *Have books available. Participate in some way with your child – buddy reading, listening, or reading on your own.
- *Talk, talk, talk. Ask your child to tell you about his/her reading. Read some of the books your child is reading and form your own book club.

Make reading a routine in your house during the school year and all summer long! Watch your reader grow!