The GRU Literacy Center is seeking a national presence by becoming a National Reading Styles Institute Exemplary Model Site. Dr. Paulette Harris has spent the two last years working with Dr. Marie Carbo to achieve Exemplary Model Status. It is our hope that we will have completed all steps needed for this by June 2015. If we do so, we will have completed the requirements a year sooner than we had originally expected!

Power Reading Online

Power Reading Online (PRO) is a nationally and internationally recognized reading program to help struggling readers. PRO engages and challenges students. It makes learning to read easy and fun, increases reading pleasure, decreases behavior problems, and dramatically increases reading achievement. PRO does it all! Struggling readers gain 2-3 years in 9 months or fewer. Students quickly improve fluency, comprehension and critical thinking skills.

“Every student has the power to learn to read. We help you release that power naturally.” –Marie Carbo

Parent Testimonial

“GRU Literacy Center and the Power Reading Online program has been a tremendous blessing to our son, Jonathan. In the year since he started the (PRO) program he has advanced 3½ grade levels. This program has helped him not only in his reading, but in all his other subjects as well. We are most grateful for the dedicated staff who helped our son advance in reading. An added bonus is that his confidence in his academic abilities has increased dramatically because of this program and the staff at the Literacy Center.” –Maura Jabaley
Reading to your Child Really Matters!

By Dr. Paulette P. Harris, Reading Specialist and Professor

Brain research findings indicate that early reading to your child promotes early literacy development.

Of course, you want your child to develop a lifelong love of reading, and it is best to start early by reading to your young child from birth.

Picture books are great for the first books that you share with your child. Books with bright, colorful pictures are perfect for early sharing. Black and white photos are even better for attracting very young readers to the page. Feel free to change the words in the story to match the age of your young child. Keep in mind when selecting stories that certain stories are excellent for lulling the young child to sleep (e.g., Goodnight Moon).

Your goal is for your young child to grow up loving books. Reading with your child is one of the best ways to raise readers. It is important to continue to read aloud to your child long after the child has learned to read. It is also critical that your child has books that he owns and can read and reread as he becomes a proficient reader.

The thrust of the Greater Augusta Partnership for Literacy is to provide families with young children books that truly belong to the child. From the time the first book arrives in your mailbox to the last time the child has that book read to him/her or is able to read the book for him/herself remarkable growth occurs. As stated at the beginning of this article, brain research findings substantiate that the child who is read to becomes the lifelong reader. Let’s read to our children so that they will always read!

Suggested Books

- Where the Wild Things Are, Maurice Sendak
- Harold and the Purple Crayon, Crockett Johnson
- The Rough-Face Girl, Rafe Martin
- Charlotte’s Web, E.B. White
- The Velveteen Rabbit, Margery Williams
- Make Way for Ducklings, Robert McCloskey
- The Little Engine that Could, Watty Piper
- The Giving Tree, Shel Silverstein
- The Lion, The Witch and The Wardrobe, C.S. Lewis
- The Snowy Day, Ezra Jack Keats