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„Effective strategies in reading education  
of students”**

# **NEW STRATEGIES FOR PROMOTING STUDENT READING**



**Group of Electronic and Computer Schools  
named after the Commission of National Education  
in Giżycko**

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## **INTRODUCTION**

In the modern world man would not be able to function without the ability to read. Thanks to it we communicate with each other, exchange necessary information. The process of reading is a process of constant mental improvement, constant development, maturation of readers' abilities.

Students' reading activity is strongly correlated with the cultural capital of their families, i.e. with the level of education of their parents and with the size of the family's book collection. As the size of a student's family book collection increases, so does the chance that the student will engage in reading, especially reading for pleasure. When talking with young people, avoid placing a value on what they read.

There are more valuable and less valuable books, but with the poor state of the reading public, any reading counts. So instead of criticizing the reading choices of young people, we should rather appreciate the fact that they read, talk to them, listen carefully to their opinions, and at the same time gently, sensitively suggest more ambitious titles that match their interests.

Today's teens are growing up in an environment with a limited vocabulary, as exposure to the living word has been displaced by television. The key to promoting reading among today's youth is to combine elements that are classically associated with books and libraries with elements that relate to other forms of media or students' diverse interests, such as computer game enthusiasts, musicians, and photographers.

## **MAIN OBJECTIVE**

The main aim is to popularize reading as one of the methods of self-education during school and after-school activities.

Through books students can broaden their knowledge of the world around them and enrich their active vocabulary. The teacher's and educator's task is to arouse young people's interest in books, shape their ability to choose and evaluate books, and introduce them to reading not only for knowledge but also for pleasure.

## **SPECIFIC OBJECTIVESR**

### **1. To stimulate reading interests among school students:**

- To invite students to join in activities to promote reading in the School Library,
- Establish a School Book Lovers Club 'Zaksiążkowani' (Books Beloved),
- Create a positive role model for a book lover - a young person

It is a young man with broad horizons, open-minded, tolerant, aware, sensitive for beauty of surrounding world.

### **2. Promoting reading as an attractive form of spending free time:**

- shaping good leisure habits among young people,
- indicating the preventive role - reading can protect from dangers, e.g. reducing the risk of addiction to compulsive use of computer games, Internet or gambling,
- encouraging forms of spending free time that can positively influence young people's development (social, intellectual, and emotional),
- teaching how to manage free time according to one's needs and interests,
- creating space to talk about common passions.

### **3. Awaken the desire and motivation to learn:**

- awakening and developing students' cognitive curiosity by creating a variety of opportunities for direct contact with books,
- arousing interest in reading as a source of necessary information and inspiration for spending time in an interesting way and as an alternative for spending time in front of a computer,
- to bring the world of books closer,
- improving skills of using school and public libraries.

### **4. Shaping and consolidating creative attitudes:**

- triggering spontaneous creative activity of students,
- developing skills of realizing own ideas,
- developing thinking and creative skills,
- developing imagination, fantasy and artistic expression,
- creating opportunities for students to present their achievements.

## **5. Self-directed learning:**

- student's making informed reading decisions,
- developing skills of book selection and evaluation,
- developing language, enriching student's lexical range,
- to acquire skills of interpreting the content of the read piece,
- to show patterns of appropriate behavior,
- developing skills of empathic cooperation in a group,
- strengthening the sense of responsibility for joint work,
- sensitizing to cultural values and awakening the need for constant participation in culture,
- sensitizing to the beauty of the literary language,
- enabling participation in cultural events.

## **6. The therapeutic impact of reading:**

- strengthening students' self-esteem by activating them to participate in various activities,
- strengthening and activating weaker and timid pupils,
- shaping and raising awareness of the need to give joy to others,
- Maintaining and strengthening the bonds of friendship between students,
- Providing positive emotional and aesthetic experiences, allowing to relieve mental tensions.

## **FORMS OF REALIZATION**

### **1. Reading competitions.**

- "Sleeveface" - contest for a photograph with a book cover embedded in it,
- competition for alternative cover of a well known novel.

### **2. School-wide initiatives to promote reading.**

- "break for Reading" - breaking the record of the number of people who read during the break,
- participation in the nationwide action "I don't read like I read",
- creating a school club of book lovers "Zaksiążkowani" ("The Books Beloved"),
- National Day of Read Aloud,
- Forbidden Books Week,
- allow pupils to borrow books during vacations and vacations.

### **3. Collaborate with the District Pedagogical Library.**

- participation in training meetings; informing,
- about events in library,
- participation in the Night of Libraries organized by the library,
- participation in cultural events organized by District Pedagogical Library in Gizycko,
- making lists and thematic summaries prepared by the District Pedagogical Library in Gizycko available for students and parents,
- providing teachers with information about programs, ICT tools helpful in achieving lesson objectives,
- giving presentations about safety on the Internet.

### **4. Use ICT tools in promoting reading.**

- to use the school facebook and website to promote reading,
- using graphic programs to design bookmarks, alternative covers for famous novels, posters for flyers,
- creating audiobooks for selected poems in computer science classes,
- share and promote well-known social media channels that address the topic.

### **5. Book exhibitions.**

- „Rate a book“-a board with titles of books suggested and rated by students and teacher,
- creating "Bookflix" board - book version of Netflix,
- organizing exhibitions of new books in the reading room,
- thematic exhibitions dealing with specific topics close to modern youth.
- exhibition of students' works,
- the exhibitions popularizing the events from the school life,
- exhibitions concerning the students' participation in EU projects.

### **6. Cooperation with the school boarding hous**

- a. Creating a micro-library in the boarding school, i.e. a place designated for books that would serve as a small library. The books would be made available on a loan and return basis, or by bringing in a new title, according to the "take a book and leave a book" principle.

- b. Placing in visible places of the dormitory quotations from books of the most eminent authors, for example in the form of Street art, i.e. unusual paintings with optical illusion on the theme of books and literature.
- c. Organizing a Reading Flashmob, i.e. reading aloud together in public space or in nature.
- d. Creating a space in the dormitory designed for reading - renovating a room to relax and read books.
- e. Organize reading activities for younger children by young people from the boarding school, for example in kindergartens or children's homes.
- f. Involve young people in "In the Magic Circle of Words," a group reading aloud a book from the library to a more interested audience, so that they can read the book on their own. Such an activity can turn into a nice custom, and at the same time open young people's minds to the beauty of the written word and encourage them to read on their own. The topic of the book can also serve as an introduction to a conversation on important topics.