



# FRONT PAGE NEWS

## TITLE I SCHOOLS

100 Tarrar Springs Road • PO Box 1869 • Lexington, SC 29071 (803) 821-1000



www.lexington1.net

### READ TO SUCCEED

## TECH TALKS: WHAT ABOUT E-BOOKS?

Let's face it...we are living in a world of ever-advancing technology. With very little research available, parents are often conflicted with *what* and *how much* exposure to mobile devices, such as tablets and smartphones, can be beneficial or harmful to their children. It may be years before we understand the full impact of tech devices on young children, but experts in the field have some positive feedback regarding e-books and e-readers, in particular. Most tend to agree that there isn't anything that can replace the "hands-on" experience of traditional books; however e-books allow for learning opportunities with interactive engagement that only technology can provide. Here are a few thoughts on how:

- **It's interactive** - Audio, video and animations can support the reader's understanding of the story, which can be extremely useful for beginning or struggling readers. Features like text narration and word highlighting can help students make connections.
- **It's rewarding** - When children see printed words light up as they read along, they're encouraged. Students are excited to practice reading independently, which can result in improved reading skills and can also increase motivation.
- **It accommodates more learning styles** - e-books allow for a more enriching experience than plain text. In this way, they expand learning opportunities to students who may not have done as well using traditional materials.
- **Bottom Line** - Having a balance is key. The shared reading experience and interaction between child and caregiver simply cannot be replaced by any device. Whether reading traditional or e-books, it's important to talk with your child about what he sees and ask questions, like what he thinks will happen next. Researchers and educators all agree, the most important reader, especially for young children, is you.



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- \* Feb. 12  
No School for Students
- \* Feb. 15  
Presidents Day -  
Student Holiday
- \* Feb. 23  
Interim Reports Issued

## THE FAMILY

love  
IS SPELLED  
T·I·M·E

### DID YOU KNOW...

According to a Surgeon General's report, tooth decay is the number one chronic infectious disease among children in the U.S. Children with tooth decay are far more likely to develop immediate and long term oral health issues, which leads to 51 million school hours lost due to dental-related illness each year.

To prevent oral-health-related absences, teach your child to floss once a day and brush twice a day with a fluoride toothpaste. Beware of frequent snacking, as repeated exposure to sugary or starchy snacks can increase the risk for cavities. And most important, visit a pediatric dentist twice a year. They can provide an ongoing oral health assessment which can help with the prevention of dental-related school absences.



February  
Is National  
Children's  
Dental  
Health  
Month!

Source: www.mychildrensteeth.org

### What's 'App'ening?



Nurture your child's love for reading with MeeGenius. This award winning children's reading app features a FREE interactive audio e-book of the day. It's available for ios and Android devices. Many subject areas are covered so children can choose titles of interest. Some e-books require further purchase, but many of the app's features are free.