

# KUMON<sup>®</sup> connections

NEWS FROM THE SEATTLE- UNIVERSITY VILLAGE CENTER

Dear Parents,

When it comes to children and reading, we need to come to terms with some sobering facts. For instance, 66 percent of all U.S. fourth graders scored "below proficient" on the 2013 National Assessment of Education Progress (NAEP) reading test ([Statistics About Education in America](#)).

Luckily, we know that through parent involvement, we can help kids develop positive learning attitudes and get them to rise above the statistics. Here's a list of ways to support your child's reading efforts:

1. Home grade for direct involvement in advancing reading levels.
2. Show interest in what they're reading and encourage reading series of books.
3. Reading together becomes valuable family time as well as learning time.
4. Make reading part of a routine, rather than a chore.
5. Find topics that your kids enjoy so reading becomes a pleasure.
6. Limit screen time and encourage reading for entertainment.
7. Make frequent visits to the library.
8. Buy lots of books and leave them all around your house. Inexpensive books are easily acquired at yard sales and used book stores. And the Kumon curriculum gives kids snapshots of classics such as:



- Treasure Island ~ Robert Louis Stevenson
- The Diary of Anne Frank ~ Anne Frank
- Gulliver's Travels ~ Jonathan Swift
- A Wrinkle in Time ~ Madeline L'Engle
- The Happy Prince ~ Oscar Wilde
- Dracula ~ Bram Stoker
- The Old Man and the Sea ~ Ernest Hemingway
- Jane Eyre ~ Charlotte Bronte
- The Adventures of Tom Sawyer ~ Mark Twain
- Frankenstein ~ Mary Shelley
- To Kill a Mockingbird ~ Harper Lee
- Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde ~ Robert Louis Stevenson
- The Odyssey ~ Homer
- Pride and Prejudice ~ Jane Austen
- Brave New World ~ Aldous Huxley
- King Oedipus ~ Sophocles
- Macbeth ~ William Shakespeare
- And more...

9. The "Kumon Book Trackers" are a fun and personal way to keep track of your child's reading. These are available free of charge to all of our students. Please ask for one at the front desk in the center.

### American High Schoolers Are Reading 5th-Grade Level Books

The Kumon curriculum helps students get to their appropriate level of reading and gives them snapshots of many classics that start them on the road to a lifetime of meaningful reading skills. When kids find value in reading, whether it's learning something cool and new, or getting lost in an imaginary world, it becomes a fun activity rather than a chore. Using the above methods will help your child gain a head start to a lifetime of rewarding reading.

It's been a pleasure working with our students and families this summer. Our students have worked hard and made great progress! We look forward to continuing to support them through the new school year.

Thanks!

Sincerely,

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***Please Note:***

**We will be closed for the Labor Day holiday from Monday, 8/31 through Monday, 9/7.** We open for the new 2015-2016 school year on Tuesday, 9/8.

Kumon of Seattle at University Village, 2625 NE 46th Street, Seattle WA 98105

