

TREAT — YOUR — READERS

9 Tips for Increasing Reader Appetites

- 1 Grab Their Attention:** Read aloud a vivid scene to bring a story to life and leave the kids wanting to hear more.
- 2 Hit 'em from All Angles:** Pull in authors, plan Skype sessions, and show video clips to keep kids engaged.
- 3 Ask for Children's Ideas:** Recommendations by peers are powerful. Try recommendation boards, student book talks, online book reviews, and more.
- 4 Always Say "YES!":** Help kids get any children's or young adult books they request by leveraging no-cost options like the local public library to borrow books that aren't in your collection.
- 5 Share Your Opinion:** Write reviews for local, state, and national journals or join book review and award committees to receive free books for kids to evaluate and share.
- 6 Choose a Variety of Formats:** Promote alternate book formats—audio books, graphic novels, and eBooks—to give kids more exposure to stories and non-fiction.
- 7 Let Them Lead:** Hi-lo (high interest/low readability) books are important titles to offer and can hook reluctant readers interested in complex topics.
- 8 Keep the Fun in Finishing:** Require little or nothing of the students after they finish a book. Instead of book reports or quizzes, invite them to recommend the book to another student.
- 9 Be Their Guide:** Encourage them to read, read, read (with zero judgment on book choice or format) and always have another book suggestion ready for your readers.

—Christina Dorr

