

The Effect of Parent Involvement on Children's Reading Acquisition

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Goal of the Meta-Analysis

Assess the causal role of
parent involvement
in children's literacy development

Some Definitions

- *Parent involvement*: parent-child activities that focus on reading
- *Intervention*: A planned change in how parents support children's literacy
- *Reading acquisition*: Growth in early and advanced literacy behaviors

Reading Acquisition

Early Literacy Behaviors

- Knowledge of letter names and letter sounds
- Phoneme awareness
- Early decoding abilities
- Early or invented spelling

Reading Acquisition

Advanced Reading Behaviors

- Word reading
- Reading comprehension

Methodology

1. Establish selection criteria for studies
2. Search for studies
3. Select the studies
4. Code the studies
5. Analyze the findings
6. Assess the implications of the findings

Step 1: What research to include?

- Tested whether parent involvement would enhance children's literacy
- With control groups

Step 2: The search

- Search result: 214 articles

Step 3: The selection

- Out of 214 articles, only 15 met criteria for inclusion.
- Main reason for exclusion:
 - No control group: 62%

Step 3: The selection

- The 15 articles that met criteria for inclusion
 - represented 16 studies

Step 4: Coding the studies

Coded the characteristics of the:

- Interventions
- Participant characteristics

Step 5: The findings

- 16 studies
- 1340 families

Step 5: The findings

Parent involvement does have a positive effect on children's reading acquisition

Step 5: The findings

Effect size (ES) = .65

On average, the intervention children made gains of 10 points on a hypothetical reading test above the control children

Step 5: The findings

But....

there was considerable variability in effectiveness across studies

range of ES: .07 to 2.02

Intervention Characteristics

- Type of parent involvement

Type of Parent Involvement

- Parents read to child (3 studies)
- Parents listen to their child read (6 studies)
- Parents tutor their child to read (7 studies)

Type of Parent Involvement

Read	Listen	Teach

Type of Parent Involvement

Read	Listen	Teach
No diff.		

Type of Parent Involvement

Read	Listen	Teach
No diff.	8-pt gain	

Type of Parent Involvement

Read	Listen	Teach
No diff.	8-pt gain	17-pt gain

Type of Parent Involvement

Read	Listen	Teach
No diff. (ES = .18)	8-pt gain (ES = .51)	17-pt gain (ES = 1.15)

Participants Characteristics

Participants Characteristics

No difference across studies for:

- Socio-economic level of the families
- Reading level of the children
- Grade level of children

Final Step: Implications

- For education...
- For research...

Implications for Education

Should educators train parents to teach their child to read?

Implications for Education

- Yes, parents are most helpful when they are trained to teach skills to their child
- Issues:
 - Need to know which techniques and strategies are most effective
 - Training and preparing teaching materials requires more resources

Implications for Education

Should educators train and encourage parents to listen to their child read?

Implications for Education

- Yes, training parents to listen to their child read enhances reading skills
- Issues:
 - Need to know which techniques and strategies are most effective
 - Less resources required

Implications for Education

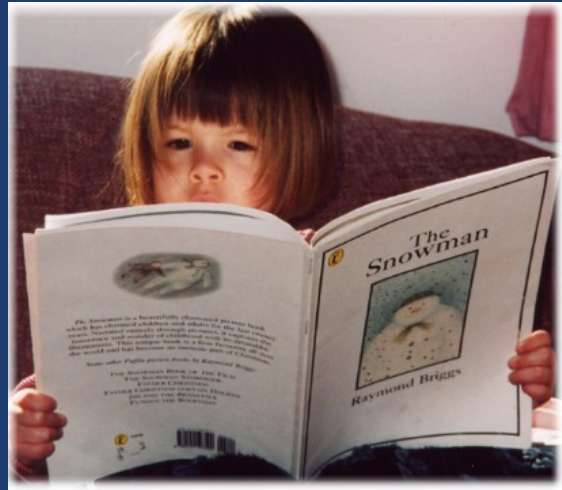
Should educators encourage parents to read to their child to enhance reading acquisition?

Implications for Education

- No, reading to children did not enhance reading acquisition
- Be cautious in claims about the benefits of parent book reading
- Issues:
 - Only 3 studies
 - Reading to children can enhance oral language skills

Implications for Research

- More research to determine specifically what aspects of the interventions are effective
- Better research reports with complete demographic information, intervention descriptions, measures used, and statistics
- Higher quality of research design



Thank you