

Reading program is an immediate favorite for all

How do children become readers? What makes reading a lifelong habit? What is needed to reach the Vernonia School District goal of making each student a "competent, proficient and critical reader"?

These are questions the district's team of volunteers and staff pondered as they were working on the state-mandated School Improvement Plan. They came up with some answers, too.

First, there must be a wide variety of books to satisfy a wide variety of interests. Second, the books have little value without time to read for pleasure. Third, there must be exposure, more exposure and even more exposure.

The district-wide Silent Reading Program resulted from the pondering. The program provides 15 minutes a day, at least four days each week, when students and staff drop everything and do the unthinkable...they read for pleasure!

Fifteen minutes doesn't seem like much to confirmed readers who can lose hours in a book, but carving that fifteen minutes out of an already tightly scheduled school day was a challenge. Making it fit required a one-minute change here, a one-minute change there, and a two-minute change somewhere else, but it was done.

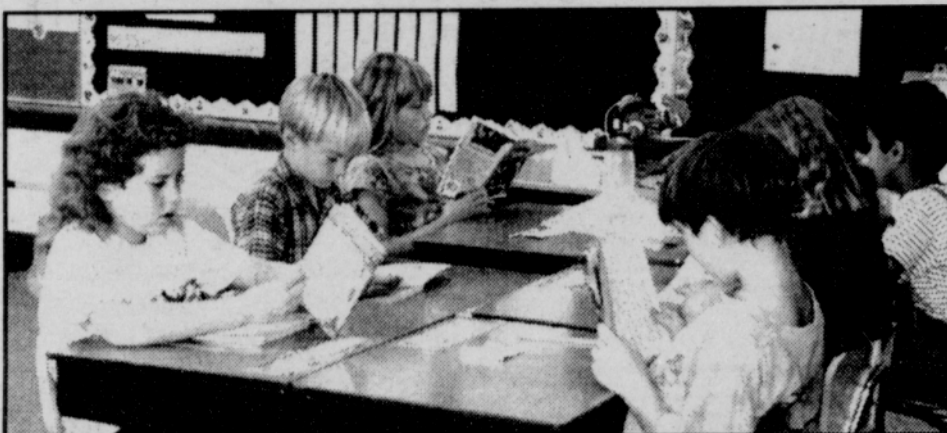
Additional books were needed at Washington Grade School to meet students' interests. At the same time, magazines were banned because the purpose of the program is to develop readers, not browsers. There are no strings attached to the kids' selections except that they are not supposed to be doing school work.

Does it work?

Obviously, it's too soon to know how long the habit will last once students are out of school. But, if total concentration is any indication of the program's acceptance, go in the main entrance to WGS any Tuesday through Friday between 10:45 and 11:00 a.m., and listen to the silence as students and staff read for pleasure.



Mrs. Budge, Dylan Vaughn, Amber Jensen, Collin Moeller, Charels Tungwenuk, Zack Dillon, Calie Johnston, Carly DeWitt, Melissa Sandstrom, Dakota Burch, Dolly Mudd and Brandon Gilbertson.



Amy Rethwill, Wayne Fogel, Katy Stevens, Chris Bero, Stephanie Christmas and Preston Roach. Mrs. Eagleson's Third Grade



Alysa Brucken, Jaycee Adams and JJ Sprayberry. Mrs. Grady's Fifth Grade.



Kelsey King, foreground, Kelly Howley, center, from left rear, Bruce McLean, Miranda Gunther and Terry Ellison. Mrs. Grady's Fifth Grade

PLEASE SUPPORT THE ADVERTISERS WHO MAKE YOUR COMMUNITY NEWSPAPER POSSIBLE

DOHERTY FORD'S 2000 MODEL

LIQUIDATION!

SAVE UP TO \$7911*



2000 Escort ZX2

2.0 liter DOHC 16 valve Zetec engine, 5-speed, tilt, leather wrapped steering, CFC - free air conditioning. #3113.

TOTAL SAVINGS \$2761
\$10,899
 MRSP 13,660
 Doherty Discount -1,261
 Rebate -1,500



2000 Focus ZX3

3 door, 2.0 liter DOHC 16 valve Zetec engine, 5-speed, air conditioning, all remote entry, anti-theft, power locks. #3147.

TOTAL SAVINGS \$1261
\$12,399
 MRSP 13,660
 Doherty Discount -1,261
 Rebate -1,500



2000 Taurus SES

4 door, 3.0 liter, 4 valve, 6 cylinder engine, automatic overdrive, moonroof, power 6 passenger seating, audio group stereo CD changer (6 disc), heated power mirrors, all-speed traction control. #3092.

TOTAL SAVINGS \$4176
\$18,999
 MRSP 23,175
 Doherty Discount -2,676
 Rebate -1,500



2000 Windstar Demonstrator

SE Wagon, 3.8 liter SPI engine, 4-speed automatic transmission, power windows, power locks, tilt, roof rack, AM/FM stereo cassette/CD, side air bags, 2nd/3rd row privacy glass. #3077.

TOTAL SAVINGS \$6131
\$22,899
 MRSP 29,030
 Doherty Discount -3,631
 Rebate -2,500



2000 Crown Victoria Demonstrator

LX comfort plus group, 4.6 liter OHC SEFI V8 engine, electronic automatic transmission, universal garage door opener, rear air suspension, automatic climate control/air conditioning, premium AM/FM stereo cassette. #2850.

TOTAL SAVINGS \$4831
\$23,499
 MRSP 28,330
 Doherty Discount -2,831
 Rebate -2,000



2000 Excursion Limited 4x4

7.3 liter power stroke turbo diesel engine, premium AM/FM stereo cassette/CD, electronic 4-speed automatic transmission, air conditioning, too much to list. #3158.

TOTAL SAVINGS \$7911*
\$38,599
 MRSP \$46,510
 Doherty Discount -7,911

DOHERTY FORD

Over 50 years of serving western Washington County
 The big city deal with the small town feel!

4223 Pacific Ave. • Forest Grove
 Located just 6 miles west of Hillsboro
www.dohertyford.com

503-357-3114
 Sale prices good thru 10/10/00.

CYBERIAN LINKS

*FREE INSTALL!

Upgrade your modem, and we will install it for you without charge!

*Current clients or new accounts.

Call TODAY for more information!

503-429-4045

Pick up your FREE copy of
Computer Bits at
 The INDEPENDENT, 725 Bridge
 507 Rose Ave., Vernonia