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