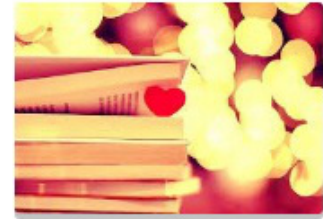


EV Readers' Room

April 2019

Reading to Our Children...Do They Ever Outgrow It?

As we move into May, with the better part of the school year behind us, many of us are beginning to reflect on how much our children have grown as readers in the last eight months. We sit and listen with awe and delight as our children read to US! My how things have changed from a time when we would read to them. This is a wonderful time to be celebrated and a good time to be reminded that children never outgrow the love of being read to. While reading the article, "End of the Cuddle Years?" published in The Wall Street Journal, I was reminded of this. I'd like to share some of the enlightening ideas shared in the article as a reminder to us all how meaningful it is to our children to be read to. According to Scholastic Corp.'s Kids & Family Reading Report, released in 2015, nearly one in four parents of children ages 6 to 17 stopped reading out loud to their children before they were 9, saying their child was old enough to do so independently. The survey, of 2,558 parents and children, found many children wished the parents hadn't stopped. Eight in 10 children ages 6 to 17 said they loved or liked being read aloud to because it is a special time together with their parents. Among children ages 6 to 11, 40% wished their parents would continue. They have our undivided attention, which children love, and the joy of listening to a favorite book. So, with this in mind, after an especially long day when it is time to go to bed, pull a favorite book from the shelf and enjoy some "cuddle time" while reading to your child.



From "The Wall Street Journal" Thursday, March 31, 2016

Looking for read aloud suggestions?

Search popular family read alouds on [goodreads.com](https://www.goodreads.com) or click on the link below:

<https://www.goodreads.com/shelf/show/family-read-aloud>

Local Author Spotlight: Aunt Liz Leary

East Vincent is proud to introduce Aunt Liz Leary! She's not only a published author, but she's also a part of our East Vincent family. Aunt Liz has two daughters at East Vincent. Abby is in 3rd grade and Tori is in Kindergarten. Read on to find out more about Aunt Liz.

Hi! My name is Elizabeth Leary and I love telling and writing children's stories. My pen name is Aunt Liz (a pen name is the name an author



uses to publish stories under). I have been telling children's stories since Abby, my first daughter, could understand the imaginary people and places that live in my head. That's over 8 years ago! A long time before sharing my first book with you!

I grew up in suburban Philadelphia with imaginary friends and adventures. Books and stories were very much part of my childhood. My Dad made up stories and read to my brother and me all the time. From these stories, I made up my own adventures full of magic, dragons, and daring-do, with me as the heroine (of course). My favorite place to play was outside in the woods behind our house. There, I became a great adventurer and explorer. I love all holidays, but Halloween was and still is one of my favorites, as I became anyone I wanted to be.

In college, I studied science. I especially enjoyed biology. But, I never stopped loving stories and I never stopped creating them. When I met my husband, he encouraged me to do what I always dreamed of doing - writing my stories down – that was 17 years ago. Since then I've written five novels, two children's books, and numerous short stories.

I live with my husband, two daughters, and one cute doggie named Petunia Bow. We like to travel, swim, and play on our farm. And, of course we love stories - making them up, telling them, and reading them. Enjoy all the wonderful stories in your own imagination. Tell them to your parents, or siblings, or grandparents. Sharing a story is one of the best things you can do with family and friends!

Find out more about Aunt Liz by going to www.auntlizleary.com.