



September, 2010

Dear Parents,

Like most parents you want your child not only to learn to read, but to read to learn. Typically, a child learns to read until third grade. After that, the child reads to learn. Reading promotes literacy, and literacy promotes educational achievement and future career success.

We are inviting you to help your child participate in the October, 2009 *Give Literacy a Hand Read-a-thon*, sponsored by the National Cued Speech Association. The goals of the Read-a-thon are to:

- Encourage children to read, and improve their reading skills
- Raise money for your child's school for educational activities or programs
- Offer a community service program that builds awareness and support for deafness, Cued Speech and literacy

Your child will set a reading goal and then recruit sponsors who pledge a certain amount for each book your child reads during the Read-a-thon. Once your student returns the Permission Slip below, he/she will be given a "Student Packet" which includes a Student Letter, Question & Answer Sheet, Pledge Sheet, and Calendar Tally Sheet. All students who receive at least one sponsor will receive a prize! Additional prizes will be awarded for students who read a minimum of 500 minutes, and 1,000 minutes. A Grand Prize will be awarded to the student who earns or receives the most money pledged! Please visit [www.literacycounts.org](http://www.literacycounts.org) for more information.

Proceeds from the Read-a-thon will benefit your child's school, as well as the National Cued Speech Association, a non-profit organization that promotes literacy, with a special emphasis on deaf children and children with pervasive language communication disorders. The NCSA promotes literacy through the use of Cued Speech, a phonemic model of language. Many of the schools participating in this Read-a-thon have a Cued Speech program.

If you would like your child to participate, please sign and return the attached permission slip to your teacher by September 30, 2010. Your signature gives your child permission to collect pledges. Help your child monitor his collection of pledges and submit the amount collected (checks payable to your child's school).

Thank you for participating. If you have any questions, please contact us at [Readathon@cuedspeech.org](mailto:Readathon@cuedspeech.org).



**Permission Slip**

Name of Student: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Room # \_\_\_\_\_ has my permission to participate in the *Give Literacy a Hand Read-a-thon* and collect pledges.

\_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_  
*Parent Signature*