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Introducing HomeReadingHelper.org

Read Charlotte [elise=readcharlotte.org@mail177.sea101.rsgsv.net] on behalf of Read Charlotte [elise@readcharlotte.org]

Sent: Monday, September 10, 2018 10:00 AM

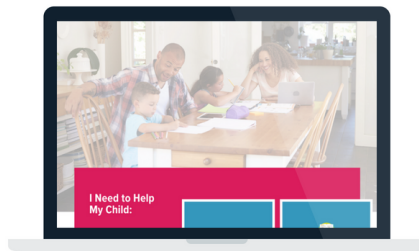
To: Steve Johnston



Open Books. Open Opportunity.

ReadCLT Insiders

Announcing HomeReadingHelper.org



MEET

DR. DEVONYA GOVAN-HUNT

Giving parents everything they need to help their children learn to read at home...all in one place.

Read Charlotte Launches New Website for Families

Read Charlotte announced today that a new website called Home Reading Helper is now available for families looking for ways to help their children learn to read at home. The site was especially developed for Charlotte-Mecklenburg parents/guardians to find free, easy-to-use resources, all in one place.

A 2016 National Parent Survey by the national nonprofit ZERO TO THREE found that over half of U.S. parents would like special websites dedicated to helping them

Congratulations to Read Charlotte #ReadingHero Dr. Devonya Govan-Hunt, who has tirelessly given her time and efforts to Reedy Creek Elementary, as well as the entire Mecklenburg County community, to improve reading outcomes across the board. "She has organized our book fairs as our former PTO President, started initiatives such as 'Becoming a Reader' for our lower grades, organized community meetings for our staff meetings to brainstorm with community leaders, and given

be successful parents. However, parents reported they were generally underwhelmed by the quality of the information they found online. Focus groups conducted by Read Charlotte in Fall 2017 with families in Charlotte-Mecklenburg found there was no one, easy-to-use resource that parents reported using to know what to do at home to help their children learn to read.

“We know it is the combination of what happens at school *and* at home that grows a proficient reader. We put in over 1,000 hours of research to find the best strategies to help more kids read proficiently by the end of third grade,” explains Read Charlotte Executive Director Munro Richardson. “We know that families best complement the efforts of our hard-working classroom teachers when they are empowered with the right information and resources to support their children’s reading development at home. We aim to fill a significant gap with HomeReadingHelper.org.”

Home Reading Helper spans PreK through third grade, offering age-based and skill-based easy-to-use information, videos, games, home activities and more. With the tagline, *Your Child’s Success Starts With You*, it aims to give busy parents exactly what they need to boost reading skills at home, as well as resources for families who might be unsure of where to turn if they have a struggling reader. Plus, the site is enabled with Google’s machine language translation abilities so that the website’s text and video subtitles can be translated on the fly into nearly 100 additional languages.

Local Charlotte-Mecklenburg families participated in user testing this summer, providing great insight to strengthen the resource before the September launch.

“I appreciate this site for filling a void that I struggled with as I taught my child to read. Moving forward, we will most definitely be using Home Reading Helper. It’s so easy to navigate,” says Shakara A., a parent from Reedy Creek Elementary.

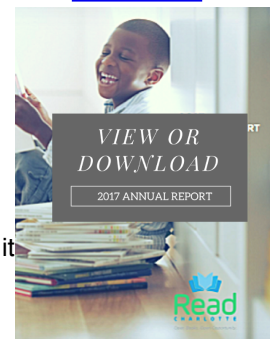
HomeReadingHelper.org is funded through generous grants from Wells Fargo and Read Charlotte’s Transformation Fund.

Any organization, company or CMS school interested in

countless hours to volunteer in reading classes at our school,” explains one Reedy Creek teacher. “Dr. Hunt’s passion for the literacy success of our students is impeccable!” [Read the full story.](#)



Ready to make a difference in Charlotte-Mecklenburg? HERE'S HOW: [LEARN MORE.](#)



promoting Home Reading Helper to local families this fall can reach out to Elise Esasky (elise@readcharlotte.org) for more information and supportive materials.




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