

Hurry Up, Houdini!

Dear Families,

Welcome to Maple Elementary's fourth One School, One Book reading challenge! The basic idea is that every family at Maple reads the same book at home at the same time. During the month of February, we will be reading a Magic Tree House book at home called Hurry Up, Houdini! This fiction book features Jack and Annie and legendary magician, Harry Houdini. Teachers, students, bus drivers, custodians, our school superintendent, assistant superintendent and even our principal will be reading the books, so there will be a lot to talk about!



WHY?: According to the developers of this program “the benefits of reading aloud are remarkable -- studies have shown that reading to children helps them to listen better and longer, build bigger vocabularies, understand concepts better, feel positive about both books and learning, and more. When an entire school reads the same book, the buzz and excitement around the book being read increases these benefits, and there is the added joy of building community in the school family.” You can learn more about this exciting program at: <http://www.readtothem.org/index.php>

HOW IT WORKS: Your family will receive a copy of Hurry Up, Houdini! . Each evening (Monday through Thursday) you are invited to read aloud a designated short section in the book to or with your child or children. The following day on morning announcements the students will be asked to answer a trivia question about the previous night’s reading. In addition to the nightly read-aloud, there will be weekly family activities to help unite the children around the book. A calendar of assigned reading and activities will be sent home with a copy of the book. Watch for the book to come home in your child’s backpack on Monday, February 3rd. This year we would like to complete our One School, One Book reading as a community. Bring your book and join us in the library at 6:30 pm on Wednesday, February 19th as a special guest reader, reads aloud the final chapter of Hurry Up, Houdini!. We hope you enjoy the book and most importantly enjoy spending time reading with your child!

HAPPY READING!