

ADULT & TEEN CONVERSATION GUIDE

BOOKMARKS

In many homes that are experiencing financial difficulty, a book is a luxury that is often unattainable. In a recent book giveaway, a student in a local school asked, “is this my forever book?” Owning books helps to support and build a love of reading. Bookmarks can be used to encourage reading and also serve as an extra fun item to receive when getting a book at a book drive or other event.

Facts:

- According to the 2016 PARCC Assessment, 21.6% of third graders in Baltimore City are reading below grade level—a figure that is twice the state average.
- An academic study from 2014 found that books in the home have a positive payoff in improved test scores throughout the world.¹

Consider this quote:

“Education means teaching a child to be curious, to wonder, to reflect, to enquire. The child who asks becomes a partner in the learning process, an active recipient. To ask is to grow.”

- Rabbi Lord Jonathan Sacks

Discussion questions:

- What do you love most about books?
- Why do you think reading is important?
- What impact do you hope these bookmarks will have on the children who are receiving them?
- How does the ability to read impact a person’s livelihood?
- What is the connection between curiosity and growth, according to Rabbi Sacks? How can you help build curiosity in students throughout the Baltimore area?

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Center for Jewish Education and Jewish Volunteer Connection are agencies of The Associated



SOURCES

¹<https://psmag.com/social-justice/books-home-strongly-linked-academic-achievement-82144>