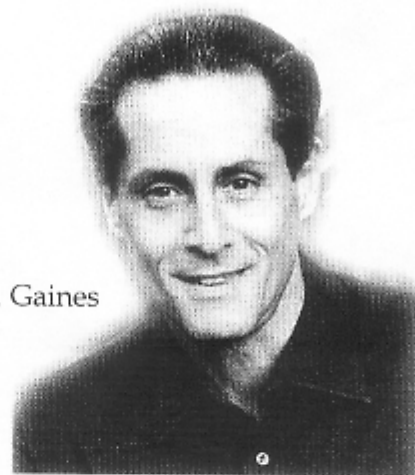


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Jed Gaines



Some books that help convey values

Schools have been working on ways to teach character development for the past few years. Most of these materials do benefit students in the classroom. And parents need to continue to set positive examples at home as well.

But I would like to propose a somewhat different but equally effective approach to this very important subject matter: I have found that reading aloud good literature has a more subtle way of reaching, and connecting with, the growing minds of children, from kindergarten right through 12th grade.

Reading aloud is simple, it is free (our libraries are the best deal in town), children love to be read to and they understand and practice the important lessons learned from hearing a good book.

Here are just a few of the hundred of books that I have used to support the teaching of values (in parentheses are the school grades they are appropriate for):

■ **Guess How Much I Love You**, S. McBratney (ps-1).

■ **The Runaway Bunny**, M. Brown (ps-1).

■ **Frog and Toad**, A. Lobel (K-2).

■ **Eggbert, the Slightly Cracked Egg**, T. Ross (K-2).

■ **I'm Thankful Each Day**, P. Hillinan (1-2).

■ **The Story of Ferdinand**, M. Leaf (1-2).

■ **The Empty Pot**, Demi (2-4).

■ **Secret of The Peaceful Warrior**, D. Millman (2-4).

■ **The Rough-Face Girl**, R. Martin (3-4).

■ **The Hundred Dresses**, E. Estes (3-4).

■ **Danny, The Champion Of The World**, R. Dahl (3-4).

■ **On My Honor**, M. Bauer (3-4).

■ **Always Wear Clean Underwear**, M. Gellman (3-6).

■ **The Children's Book of Heroes**, W. Bennett (4-6).

■ **Where The Red Fern Grows**, W. Rawls (5-6).

■ **Hatchet**, G. Paulsen (5-6).

■ **Bridge to Terabithia**, K. Paterson (5-6).

■ **Number The Stars**, L. Lowry (5-7).

■ **The Skull of Truth**, B. Coville (5-7).

■ **There's A Girl In My Hammer-**

lock, J. Spinelli (5-8).

■ **Under The Blood Red Sun**, G. Salisbury (5-8).

■ **Freak The Mighty**, R. Philbrick (6-8).

■ **Earthshine**, T. Nelson (6-9).

■ **The Cay**, T. Taylor (6-9).

■ **A Call To Character**, C. Greer (6-12).

■ **The Little Prince**, A. de Saint-Exupery (6-12).

■ **Tuesdays with Morrie**, M. Albom (7-12).

■ **To Kill A Mockingbird**, H. Lee (7-12).

■ **Of Mice and Men**, J. Steinbeck (8-12).

■ **The Grapes of Wrath**, J. Steinbeck (11-12).

I look forward to having you join me at the next Barnes & Noble read-aloud presentation, 7p.m. on November 25, where I will continue to discuss and read about morals and values.

Jed Gaines, the father of two public-school children, has been working with the read-aloud concept for the past 14 years. He conducts presentations for educators, parents and their Hawaii school communities. Send questions or a self-addressed stamped envelope for his K-8 reading list to: Jed Gaines, Read Aloud America, 1937 Keeaumoku Street, Honolulu, HI 96822. Or call 531-1985.



"It's easy to read aloud to children. Simply pick up a book and start reading aloud!"

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