

"The Amazing Benefits of Reading (and How to Get Your Kids to Actually Do It)"

David Loy: Hi and welcome to *In the Loop* with Andy Andrews, I'm your host David Loy. Andy thanks for joining us once again.

Andy Andrews: I'm glad to be here David. Glad to be here. I'm glad we're talking on the phone, that I'm not having to type or anything. My hand is killing me.

David: What happened to your hand?

Andy: I fell, I was very stupid and I was walking on a, like a boardwalk thing, and I fell and there is like galvanized wire that was within reach, and I grabbed it and it kind of took my full weight. And pulled a lot of skin from my hand. And if that sounds like, if that sounds painful, you are very perceptive my son because it hurt like crazy.

David: Unbelievable.

Andy: And then, you know, I was kind of, out in the woods and didn't really have a lot of gear to like first aid type of thing, so the first thing I could get to, I hesitate to say what I did, you know, to kind of clean it up, because it would make, somebody would faint. Because I almost did. But let me just tell you, I had that Germax, you know Germax?

David: Yeah.

Andy: And when I slapped that stuff on my palm, because a lot of the skin is gone from my palms and fingers, and when I slapped that on there, every scream from childhood of my mother pouring alcohol on a badly stubbed toe, came back to me, a twenty fold.

David: Oh no.

Andy: It really hurt.

David: Wow, that's unbelievable.

Andy: So if you meet me, coming up next few days and I shake your hand with my left hand, that's why.

David: Oh that's crazy. That's terrible. Well I'm sorry to hear that but I'm glad it's not worse and I'm glad you're

Andy: And you're glad it's not you.

David: That's also true. Alright, let's, we've got a great voicemail today. This is actually in response to, I believe it's episode 170 and you had asked a question to people and ask them to send in their methods of doing something with their children. And this is a response to that. So let me play this voice mail from Joreen, in Denver. And then we'll get your thoughts.

Andy: Ok, alright.

Question: Hi Andy, my name is Joreen, I live in Denver, Colorado. My question for you, is how to get your kids to read? I heard this, you asked this on a podcast a while ago, or just last week I think it was. That you would somebody to ask that question. So I'm asking that question. I do have your parenting series and we are fully in tune with that. We have opportunity to impact five souls by adopting them into our family. So my husband and I have been going through parenting classes and everything like that. We are older than traditional parents. So they didn't have parenting books when I have kids and when I was raising my first family. So as this next family comes up, they are different. They've been through trauma, and neglect and things like that. And so you can't parent them the same way you can biological children, that you just raise up, right from scratch, right from the womb. Anyway, it's quite a learning experience. And we are open to any and all of your comments, your insights, and suggestions. We truly love your podcasts and we listen to them faithfully. Thank you very much, bye.

David: Wow Andy, that's a great question. Joreen thank you so much. And very cool Andy, that she has the parenting series. I know she's been a fitting from that. And if anyone listening out there, has not seen those free videos, go to andyandrews.com, sign up and make sure that you enter your email address. And you'll get the four same parenting videos that Joreen started with. And then if you're interested in the extended course, you'll have that opportunity as well. So Andy what are your thoughts on her question there, what is the best, most effective way to get kids to read?

Andy: Well, you know, I think that storytelling really helps that. I think reading to kids, really helps that. And I think that creating that interest in stories and those kind of things, there are a couple of other things though, that are, I guess non traditional. I don't know if I would say non traditional but they're just not often utilized. I guess, to a couple of ideas that I know of, that are not often

utilized. And I wanna tell you both of them, because it is very important that you get your child reading. It's very important that you read. I have people say to me a lot of times, you know, I don't really like to read. And I understand that, you know, I've always been kind of a Sports Illustrated, Field and Stream, outdoor life kind of guy too. And so I kind of have to make myself read. But if you look pass, you know, you and I are always on this podcast attempting to look at the foundation of our thinking. And so when we go foundationally about reading, whether we like to read or good at reading, that doesn't really matter. If we understand how people change, the two things that are required for people to change, what's in it for me, and proof beyond reasonable doubt. Meaning that, this explanation makes sense, if we understand how people change and understand that, that's what we're after. Ok, they don't read? We want them to read. But foundationally, even below that is the why. Why are we wanting them to read? Because we know what reading does. And so, if we're getting into that, what's in it for them, and that proof beyond a reasonable doubt, then whether we want to or don't want to, it's immaterial. I mean, do I wanna read? Well, no, not really. Ok, but we do understand the statistics about reading, you and I do, as adults. The statistic about reading say, people who read, make more money than people who don't read. People who read have a lower divorce rate than people who don't read. People who read have fewer problems with their children than people who don't read. People who read get promoted at a higher rate than people who don't read. People who read, so on and on. So do we want to read? Well, not necessarily but we do want to make a better living for our families. We do want to make better mommas and daddies for our kids. We do want to be more valuable in our careers. And so do we really want to read? Well not necessarily, but that's not the point. The point is what do you want, ok.

David: And it's just as you've already mention on it, but it's so important to me, the example that a parent is setting. So it's not just telling that child, hey what do you want? Even though you don't want to, you might not wanna read, what results you wanna get? Also setting that example.

Andy: So to figure out how to create a desire, in a child, alright, and I'll give you a great, great example. Here's a great example. Adam and I, not too long ago, we're fishing. And we tried several different things, and we're fishing for speckled trout, and long story short, Adam caught a big one. I mean, he got a speckled trout of a lifetime. I mean, it was a monster. And he was so excited, we called mom, we talked to Austin, we told everybody. It was just a great moment. So after the fish was in the icebox, everything settle down, before we start to fishing again, I said, Adam, I see how grateful you are for that trout right now. I mean he was thanking God for those trout. I mean, it was just an awesome moment. I say, you know how grateful you are and how excited you are? He said, yes sir. I said, I want you to think of the different things that are involved that came to be, that had to happen for you to be in a position to catch this speckle trout. It didn't just happen by accident. This is something that was planned for and prepared for. I said, one was the opportunity to go with these people. And whatever they did in their lives, and the way they acted, to be able to have the opportunity, to have this place and to be able to afford this. I mean, there were choices that they made, that they were able to offer that to us. That they were able to make that available to us. I said, now, here you and I are, out together, and you know how we used that particular lure and that didn't work and we used that particular bait, and that didn't work? And you know how I saw, I said, Adam, you see that little ripple over there, you see that? That's coming from an upturn in the water, I said, there is something underneath there that's causing that current. And if we use this type of bait and we cast it this type of way, across. And if you can do it across without disturbing

that area, and you can let it drift. You remember how I told you all that, right? He said, right. I said, remember how you did it exactly like I told you to? And that first cast, that trout hit it, and now we've got this trout in the net, and we've got the pictures, and the memory forever? I said, do you know how I knew how to do that? He said, because you're my dad. I said, well, not really. I said, let me tell you exactly how I knew how to do that. I knew how to do that because I read how to do it. Now see Adam, Adam is not, he's like Joreen's kids. We have to work with Adam to get him to read. He doesn't just naturally want to read. So I learned how to do that by reading. He said, you did. I said, I did. I said, it was a Florida Sportsman article. And I said, my mom and dad, I was like you, and my mom and dad would say, just read, just find something that you're interested in and read. Find something that you wanna know about and read. And I said, Adam, I really wanted to catch big fish. I still want to catch big fish. And I said, I can't be around, I said, I don't know people who have caught this many, these kind of big fish, but I can go into magazines and books, and immediately be around. I said, wouldn't you, you know how Mr. Billy Stimpson, up at the hunting camp, wouldn't you just give anything just to sit there and listen to him tell you those stories about how he did this and how he did that? He said, yes sir. I said, well you know what, those stories, I said, Mr. Billy is passed away now, I said, but those stories are written down. Stories are in the book. And you can get alone in your room or alone in the backyard, or alone in the back seat, and you can say, ok, Mr. Billy, tell me your stories. Reveal your secrets to me. And I said, you can become the greatest at whatever you want to do, because reading will teach it to you. So to find out, now see what I did that made sense to Adam and it also had in there, what he wants. So that is an agent of change. Another way to do it very quickly is that as somebody gets older and you think something is absolutely critical and you don't want to wait, pay them.

David: Wow.

Andy: I'm serious. Pay them,

David: No, absolutely, that hits home for me. As you probably know, I've talked to you about that before but 12 years ago, or 13 years ago, my dad offered to pay me to read a book called *The Traveler's Gift*. Because it was so, the content in it was so meaningful to him, and he did not want to wait and wonder if I was going to read it. He wanted to instigate and make it happen.

Andy: And some people think, well that's, I don't know, pay to read. I mean, what do you pay your kids to do? I pay them to mow the lawn; I pay them to take out the garbage. Ok, you pay your kid to take out garbage; I'll pay mine to read something that'll change his life forever. I mean, invest your money wisely. And pay them, and make sure they. And if you're gonna pay them, you get something for your money. You get either an oral report you know, in a conversation, an hour long conversation, oral report about that book. Or you get a written report, you get something for your money. But pay them, make it worth their while, make it worth your while. I mean, think about all the things that you put money into, you know, with your children. But if you can do a combination of that, and there's certain books that you want them to read, so these are ways Joreen, that you can make this because I'll tell you what. Your dad Rick, paying you to read *Traveler's Gift*, not because it was my book, but that changed your life, right.

David: Absolutely. And he had no clue how it would change my life, but he believed with everything he had that it would positively impact it. So it was like you said, worthy investment. I mean, that was just no brainer for them. That's amazing. Andy that's really good stuff. I love these questions that bring life application, you know, tangible, actionable steps to people's daily lives. This is

fantastic. So thank you for taking the time and sharing your thoughts on that. And if you want to get in on this conversation, please do, send us an email intheloop@andyandrews.com. Call and leave us a voicemail 1800 726 2639, that's 1800 726 Andy. Leave us your name, where you're calling from, what your question is and we'll try to get to that on a future episode. And just another reminder, this is a passion of Andy's to continue to communicate with people on a regular basis. And this is a free resource. We know that there are people out there that can benefit from this. And if you have someone in your family or at your office that you think would benefit from this conversation of from other topics that we address on *In the Loop*, please forward these emails or direct them to iTunes. And share this free resource with them. That's our passion, we want to help people and you can be a huge part of continuing to grow and spread this message. So Andy thank you again for taking the time and we will talk to you next week.

Andy: Thank you buddy. Thank you so much David, and thank you Matt.

Would you like to run something by Andy? Contact us and your question might be featured on the show!

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