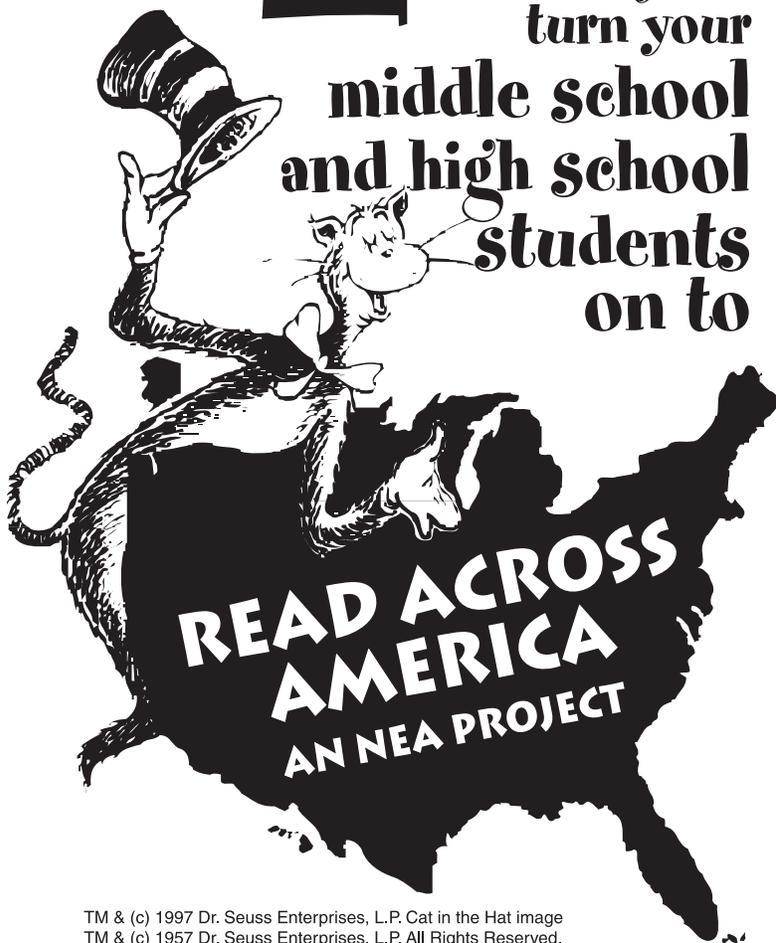


24 ways to turn your middle school and high school students on to



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1. Ask students to write, edit and illustrate books to read to elementary children. Donate the books to classrooms or media centers.
2. Give Dr. Seuss books a new twist. Ask students to write sequels or satires based on famous Dr. Seuss books.
3. Ask students to write plays around Dr. Seuss book themes to present at elementary assemblies when "The Cat" visits. Ask them to create a video production of the play and distribute videos to elementary school libraries.
4. Ask students to administer the "Oath of Reading" to students in younger grades and talk to younger students about why they value reading. They might write and perform a humorous skit to entertain elementary students while delivering the message.
5. Help students use technology to create cartoon and alphabet books for children in elementary schools.
6. Have students write poetry on lacing cards and donate the cards to local day cares, hospitals and the Salvation Army Christmas Store.
7. Participate in or host a drama tournament that features poetry and prose, storytelling, duet acting, humorous and dramatic interpretation, radio speaking, original oratory and extemporaneous speaking.
8. Ask students to dress as "The Cat in the Hat" or other favorite Dr. Seuss characters and choreograph dances to present at assemblies.
9. Have students write and sing Dr. Seuss songs to present to elementary students.
10. Have students dress as "The Cat in the Hat" and help present a reading night for your area Parents As Teachers program (parents and children birth to age five).
11. Plan and participate in a PTA Authors' Night. Students write and illustrate their own books and invite all of their parents for an evening presentation. Guest speakers present information on the benefits of reading to children and developing lifelong readers.
12. Invite a professional storyteller to give a guest "lecture" and perform. Then ask students to write a story or select a favorite story to perform. Once students have perfected their presentations, take the show on the road to an area elementary school.

- 13.** Introduce teens to the world of picture books for older readers. Encourage them to create one of their own to share with the group or put on display in the library.
- 14.** Have the English and art departments work together. Art students draw scenes from a graphic novel or comic book while the English students write stories to go along with the scenes.
- 15.** Have the art department at the local high school decorate the “young adult” section of the library.
- 16.** Establish a teen writing group. Produce a literary magazine of student writings accompanied by illustrations.
- 17.** Invite a comic collector or owner of a comic/graphic novel store to discuss the different genres.
- 18.** Ask students to make posters that persuade people to read their favorite types of books or reading materials.
- 19.** Have students make bookmarks describing themselves as readers. Ask them to make clear what books they like without mentioning authors, titles or characters.
- 20.** Have students design trading cards or game cards of their favorite characters.
- 21.** Ask students to find favorite poems or passages. Then have them create music, art, videos, sculptures or photographs that best capture the significance of these pieces.
- 22.** Sponsor a Read Across America Readathon. Students collect pledges to raise money for books or a charity of their choice. Have them spend the day reading their favorite books, presenting poetry readings, etc.
- 23.** Teach a unit on storytelling and wrap up the lessons with students recording their favorite children's books on tape. Then donate the tapes to elementary school libraries.
- 24.** Create a “contemporary authors” card game for students at different grade levels. Use favorite contemporary authors and book titles like Judy Blume and J.K. Rowling (and Dr. Seuss for the young readers' version). Survey classmates and students at other grade levels to determine their favorite authors for inclusion in the game.



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