



## PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT IN READING COMPREHENSION FOR ELEMENTARY LEARNERS

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### ABSTRACT:

Reading comprehension is a foundational skill essential for both academic success and personal development. This study evaluates the impact of parental involvement on the reading comprehension skills of elementary learners. It aims to identify various forms of parental involvement, examine the relationship between parental engagement and students' reading performance, explore the challenges parents face, and determine effective strategies used by parents to foster reading comprehension at home.

The research underscores that parental involvement significantly enhances children's academic performance by providing extensive practice, encouragement, and creating a conducive reading environment. This involvement includes shared reading activities and consistent communication with learners, which benefits both the child's reading development and the parent-child relationship. Despite government initiatives in the Philippines aimed at improving literacy, many students, particularly in public schools, continue to face difficulties in reading. The study highlights the importance of collaborative efforts between parents and educators to support children's reading comprehension, addressing the challenges and adopting best practices to cultivate effective readers.

### KEYWORDS:

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### I. INTRODUCTION

Reading comprehension is a crucial skill a student should acquire in school. It is the foundation of both academic achievement and personal growth. Developing strong reading comprehension skills is not solely the responsibility of schools and teachers but also the parents. To become successful readers, children require a lot of help and support from both their parents and teachers to perform well in reading (Bendanillo, 2021).

Parental involvement helps to improve children's academic performance by fostering growth in reading skills through extensive practice and encouragement at home, including creating a conducive reading environment, engaging in shared activities, and maintaining regular communication with learners. Maintaining these important, high-quality reading

experiences with parents may be both beneficial for the parent-child relationship (Canfield et al., 2020) as well as children's involvement with reading more broadly (Reese et al., 2022).

Learning to read is difficult for many pupils, especially those attending public schools. The Philippine government has implemented laws and initiatives aimed at educating every child to read. Since children who struggle with reading receive low grades, become easily distracted and frustrated, exhibit behavioural issues, appear to hate school, frequently perform short of their full potential, and eventually stop doing their schoolwork, this policy seeks to improve literacy and encourage effective readers.

**II. OBJECTIVES**

The study aims to evaluate the role of parental involvement in enhancing the reading comprehension skills of elementary learners. Specifically, it seeks to achieve the following objectives:

1. To identify the various forms of parental involvement that contributes to the reading comprehension development of elementary learners.
2. To examine the relationship between parental involvement and the reading comprehension performance of elementary learners.
3. To explore the challenges faced by parents in supporting their children's reading comprehension development.
4. To determine the strategies or best practices employed by parents in fostering reading comprehension skills at home.

**III. METHODOLOGY**

This study uses a descriptive research approach to explore the role of parental involvement in enhancing the reading comprehension skills of elementary learners. Data will be gathered from various electronic sources, including peer-reviewed research articles and studies from reputable academic platforms such as ResearchGate, ERIC, and MDPI. These sources provide insights into the types of parental involvement, their impact on reading comprehension, and the successful strategies that support children's literacy development.

**THE STUDY WILL PROCEED WITH THE FOLLOWING STEPS:**

Review of Related Literature – Relevant research articles and studies will be reviewed to identify the various forms of parental involvement and their impact on students' reading comprehension.

The literature will be drawn from sources such as Bendanillo (2021), Canfeld et al. (2020), and Dong et al. (2024), ensuring that the findings are based on well-established research.

**DATA COLLECTION** – Data will be extracted from peer-reviewed articles and reliable reports on parental involvement in education. The data will focus on successful parental strategies, challenges faced by parents, and the observed outcomes of such involvement on reading comprehension.

**DATA ANALYSIS** – A qualitative analysis will be conducted to look for patterns in the data that demonstrate the relationship between parental involvement and the development of reading comprehension skills in elementary learners.

**PRESENTATION OF DATA AND ANALYSIS**

**A. FORMS OF PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT**

Various forms of parental involvement have been shown to significantly contribute to the development of reading comprehension skills. According to Dong et al. (2024), these include engaging in shared reading, helping with

homework, creating a positive learning environment at home, and maintaining regular communication with teachers. Research by Canfield et al. (2020) also highlights the importance of these factors in promoting literacy development.

**B. RELATIONSHIP BETWEEN PARENTAL INVOLVEMENT AND READING COMPREHENSION**

The relationship between parental involvement and children's reading comprehension is evident across multiple studies. Reese et al. (2022) found that children receiving consistent reading support at home show notable improvements in their reading skills. In a similar vein, Canfield et al. (2020) confirmed that students with involved parents demonstrate stronger academic performance and better reading comprehension outcomes. This correlates with the findings from Dong et al. (2024), which emphasize that parental expectations and active involvement play a key role in enhancing students' academic achievements, including reading comprehension.

**C. CHALLENGES FACED BY PARENTS**

Despite the positive effects of parental involvement, parents often face significant challenges. Reese et al. (2022) identified that time constraints, often due to work commitments, are a primary obstacle preventing parents from engaging fully with their children's educational activities. Additionally, some parents may struggle with their own literacy skills, limiting their ability to support their children's reading comprehension development (Bendanillo, 2021).

**D. STRATEGIES AND BEST PRACTICES**

Effective strategies for parental involvement include setting up a quiet reading space, engaging in regular shared reading, and discussing texts to ensure comprehension. According to Canfield et al. (2020), maintaining communication with teachers and seeking additional support when necessary is essential for fostering children's literacy development. Furthermore, Dong et al. (2024) highlight the critical role of parental literacy involvement (PLI) in promoting positive relationships between parents and children, facilitating a transfer of knowledge through literacy activities.



**IV. CONCLUSION**

In conclusion, parental involvement is a crucial factor in improving the reading comprehension skills of elementary learners. Active parental engagement—such as providing a

conducive learning environment, helping with homework, and maintaining communication with teachers significantly enhances children's literacy development. However, parents face challenges such as time limitations and limited literacy skills that can hinder their ability to provide full support.

#### KEY FINDINGS:

- Parental involvement positively impacts children's reading comprehension.
- Effective involvement includes direct support in reading activities and creating a supportive learning environment.
- Challenges like time constraints and limited literacy skills can hinder parental support.
- Successful strategies include regular shared reading, discussions, and communication with teachers.

#### V. RECOMMENDATION

To further enhance the effectiveness of parental involvement in supporting reading comprehension, the following recommendations are made:

1. Parental Education – Schools should offer workshops or a resource to help parents improve their literacy skills and learn effective strategies to support their children's reading comprehension (Bendanillo, 2021). Parents should be educated on the importance of early literacy and how they can contribute to their children's development.
2. Flexible Communication Channels – Schools should establish flexible communication channels that enable parents to stay informed about their children's progress and easily reach out to teachers (Reese et al., 2022). This will encourage greater parental involvement in the learning process.
3. Community Support Programs – Local communities should offer support programs for working parents, helping them balance work and educational commitments, and engage more effectively in their children's education (Canfield et al., 2020).
4. Collaboration Between Schools and Parents – Schools should foster stronger collaboration with parents by organizing regular workshops or meetings to provide strategies for improving reading comprehension and to encourage active parental involvement.

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