



CHOICES.



River Valley Middle School

Site Coordinator: Mrs. Patricia Stout / Vicky Bryant

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Building Literacy Skills at Home

Literacy based activities should be encouraged at home during middle and high school years. Strong literacy skills are essential for development, provide a foundation for school and work, social skills, and solving problems. Below are a few strategies you can do at home with you middle and high schooler.

1. **Start a Family Book Club.** Read a book as a family and engage in discussions around the story.
2. **Listen to Audio Books.** Listening to a novel as a whole family is a great way to engage in family book discussions.
3. **Promote Choice.** Allowing your child to choose books they want to read can help foster a love of reading.
4. **Mix in Movies.** Suggest books from movies your child likes. They may enjoy getting the additional details that the book provides. Discuss how the book and movie are different. Compare how the movie and book were different. Which story line did they like best.
5. **Read to younger siblings.** Encourage your older child to read and discuss a book to a younger sibling or family member.
6. **Play Games.** Games like Scrabble, Boggle, and other board games require reading skills.

Just a few minutes spent each day on simple literacy activities can add up to a lifelong love of reading and learning. (<https://doe.louisiana.gov/>)

Supporting Your Child Through Middle & High School Math

It's no secret the Math is source of most home-work stress for teens. Being a parent of a teen there's a fine line of help for the teen between doing to much for them or let them struggle for themselves. To help alleviate some of the stress and to help your teen to become self confident, below are a few things to help navigate Math homework.

1. Encourage your student to focus on the how of the problem and solution works. Ask them to explain the problem and focus on the "why" of the problem by asking questions "why does this work?"
2. Encourage your child to do their best to always be positive and encouraging. Math takes practice and patience.
3. Do admit if you don't fully understand a problem and it's ok if they don't understand it right now. Discuss how to figure out how to solve the problem, look at past problems, search on google or youtube.
4. Keep current on the math concepts being taught and research before hand to refresh your memory or learn a new the new concept before helping your child.
5. Look at your options—is there someone close like, uncle, neighbor, sibling that would be willing to help with math homework.
6. Be Cautious walking the fine line of helping, guiding, teaching and doing to much.

www.mathgiraffe.com/



Esports

CHOICES program had another successful year in Esports. Students were able to compete with other schools in the surrounding areas. On May 3, 2025 the

CHOICES Esports will be participating in a tournament held at the University of Rio Grande in their Esports Arena. Students have opportunity to win prizes and scholarships for the university.



Snack Lab

Students ask for Snack Lab activity every year. They love fixing different foods, finding different recipes, and most of all they love eating their creations. This is a skill that will last a life time. Students are reading recipes and learning new vocabulary while mixing and stirring ingredients. Math skills are being learned and applied during Snack Lab.



Students are measuring out ingredients, figuring out measurements when doubling or tripling the recipes, and equivalent measurement units. The activity is one of the favorites and I expect to see it return next year.

La Comedia "Into the Woods"

Students for SGMHS, RVMS, and RVHS traveled to Springboro, Ohio to La Comedia Dinner Theatre for a delicious dining and Broadway-style live entertainment on March 6, 2025. The experience started out with a buffet consisting of breakfast foods and lunch items. The students saw "Into the Woods" that contained familiar fairy tale characters from Grimm's Fairy Tales like Little Red Riding Hood, the Baker and his wife, Cinderella and more with a twist. The characters realize that they must work together to set everything straight in the kingdom. The students had a great experience.



Last Day of Afterschool

C.H.O.I.C.E.S. has had another great year and ended on a high note. This year they have experienced Corn Hole Tournaments, Esports, Career Exploration, a Ghost Walk, trips to plays (The Nutcracker & Into the Woods), Snack Lab (a favorite), Hunter Safety, pottery, pumpkin painting, crafts, and much more. The site coordinators supplied their C.H.O.I.C.E.S. students with pizza and pop party. Everyone had a great time and looks forward to a new year of afterschool in 2025-26.

