

EPISODE **111**

How to handle interruptions during read- aloud time

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In This Episode

In this episode, Sarah is diving deep into read-aloud interruptions. From what's really causing them to how to set ourselves up for success, today she's breaking this topic down and sharing solutions.

The Listening Guide

Use this guide to skip to parts that most interest you, or listen to the entire podcast.

- 1:24 It doesn't have to look perfect
- 4:20 Wasn't this supposed to be easy?
- 6:38 You're not doing it wrong
- 9:00 How to set yourself up for success
- 10:23 Something to do ...
- 13:01 Keep it short and use audiobooks
- 15:33 Tips for older kids
- 16:40 WHY are your kids interrupting?
- 19:05 Books with new words or references
- 20:57 Interrupting for attention
- 21:57 Connection first!
- 24:32 Let the kids speak

"It's the process of sitting down with the child, falling into a story, and remember that the most important piece of the whole thing is connection. So, even if it doesn't look exactly like you hoped it was, but it's an opportunity for you and your child to connect, for your kids to connect with each other, and for you all to connect with the ideas and the stories you read, then that is a win." - Sarah Mackenzie

Quotes and Questions

* **Keep stepping out ...**

"When we read aloud to our kids in spite of the fact that it looks much different from our initial vision, **we're stepping out in faith**. If I can tell you one thing in this entire chapter it is this: keep stepping out."

* **Part of the deal ...**

"**Interruptions are part of the deal**. Interruptions are part of what it means to be human and to be interacting with other humans, and getting things done. They don't diminish the value of the read aloud."

* **Humans over books.**

"it's OK to prioritize your humans over your books. Actually, **it's important and good and right to prioritize humans ahead of books.**"

* **The No. 1 thing ...**

"The number one thing we want to worry about when we read aloud with our kids is connection. We want them to leave our read-aloud time feeling loved ... So even if it doesn't look perfect, even if our kids miss stuff, even if things don't look exactly idealistic as we'd hoped, **it's the fact that you're sitting down and reading a story with your children that will stay with them ...**"

Show Notes

Books from today's episode:

- [The Read-Aloud Family](#)
- [The Rise and Fall of Mount Majestic](#)
- [Runaway Ralph](#)

Other links from today's show:

- [RAR #82: Why Fidgeting is a Good Sign \(and what brain science has to say about reading aloud\), Dr. Michael Gurian](#)
- [RAR #73: What your kids can do while you read aloud \(they'll probably listen better than ever\)](#)
- [Paper trays](#)

To find more resources to help you build your family culture around books, visit ReadAloudRevival.com.