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Letters to the Editors

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Letters to the Editors

While I was reading the article *Reading Aloud to Children—Why Bother?* I was reminded about the importance of reading aloud to our students on a daily basis; however let's not forget the importance of reading aloud to ALL of our students. As a secondary educator and a reading specialist, I have always read to my students, from picture books to novels, and I encourage other educators to read to their older students as well. As readers we are able to share our love of literature with our students through reading aloud. The advantages of reading aloud to the younger children also apply to adolescents, especially our struggling readers. Students enjoy hearing experienced adults read using inflections in their voices, read fluently, and enjoying the book, which in turn will demonstrate the entertainment one gets from reading a book. So, to answer the question "why bother?" Yes, please bother, and let's all read to all of our students from kindergarten to grade 12.

Dee Halstead
Secondary Literacy Coordinator
Lansing Public Schools

The fall 2005 issue of the *Michigan Reading Journal* was well done. While I was reading the issue, I came across the article that Dr. [R. Craig] Roney, one of my professors in graduate school, had written 20 years ago. It was really quite interesting to see his article reprinted, especially since I had cited it in the article that I had published in *MRJ* in fall of 2004.

Dr. Roney's follow up article was quite insightful. I do have one question though. In the paragraph on page 50, beginning "With regard to research, Short (1995) has provided an annotated summary of recent studies relating reading aloud to a child's academic achievement," was he citing my article or that of someone else? There is no reference for this citation, and this is why I am wondering if he is citing my article, which was written in 2004, not 1995. If it was my article that was being cited, then is it possible for me to receive credit in some form?

I appreciate your attention to this matter. Best wishes with your new endeavor of editing the journal.

Nichole Short
Children's Librarian
Canton Public Library

Editors' Reply: *There was, indeed, a missing reference in Dr. Roney's article. The reference is as follows:*

Short, K. G. (Ed.). (1995). *Research and professional resources in children's literature: Piecing a patchwork quilt*. Newark, DE: International Reading Association.

I was thrilled to receive the *Michigan Reading Journal* where you had published the interview I did with David Harrison. I was most impressed with your journal and the quality of articles. I delayed writing you until I had been able to devour every article.

I found that I had tabbed two books I am interested in pursuing after reading Jason Frieling's article on grammar. I have already called my local bookstore and placed an order for several of the books that Linda Pavonetti had in her article. My only problem was the reviews were so effective that I really wanted to order so many more. Hats off to that column!

Craig Roney was on target in 1980 when he first wrote the article about the importance of reading aloud to children and how wonderful of him to remind us of the most current research, which stresses the important impact we can have on children when we read to them.

Again, I want to thank you for the wonderful job you have done with your journal and how thrilled I am with the presentation you gave my article.

Ann Gifford
Southwest Missouri State University