

Not “Lose yourself in a book” but “Find yourself in a book”

Ten “tricks”

10. Develop “man-cave.” Let your teen boys name it, design it, and claim it.
9. Make books he will like easy for him to find, give him a one-stop shop
8. Ask your teen boys for input – new items for the collection
7. Read to him – preferably with male readers. Encourage teen boys to read to younger boys.
6. Get boys to review and recommend their favorite books
5. Choices – illustrated books – Manga, Comic Books, Graphic novels; audio books. And don’t forget non-fiction, short stories and poetry (yes, books in prose)
4. Use social media – twitter, facebook, texts, to reach them
3. Author visits (especially from male authors/illustrators)
2. Encourage them to write their own stories
1. Talk with them about why they don’t read, and discuss what they do read.

Resources:

SKYPE visits

- <http://skypeanauthor.wetpaint.com/>
- <http://authorskypetour.livejournal.com/607.html>

Local Authors/illustrators

- <http://www.scbwi.org>

Boys and reading

- <http://www.boysread.org/>
- <http://www.guysread.com/>
- <http://www.nytimes.com/2011/08/21/books/review/boys-and-reading-is-there-any-hope.html>

SPEAKER BIO:

B. A. Binns is the award winning author of numerous short stories. Her debut novel, PULL tells the story of a young man’s journey from guilt and the fear that biology forces him to repeat his father’s violence, to the realization that his future is in his own hands. Please visit her website at <http://babinns.com>, and her blog at <http://barbarabinns.com/>