

# HOW TO REACH YOUR MILLION WORD GOAL

## How Much Reading to Reach the 1,000,000 Word Goal from Oct 1 – June 15 (37 weeks)?

**IMPORTANT NOTE:** We are assuming that ½ of the student’s reading will be done at home and the other ½ of the student’s reading will be done at school during DEAR time or other reading periods.

### ***CALCULATE HOW MANY WORDS A MINUTE YOU CAN READ***

Just for fun – Find out how many words per minute you can read! Here’s how:

1. Read for 5 minutes
2. Mark the starting point and ending point of what you read
3. Count the words that you read during the 5 minutes
4. Now to get your own personal words per minute, just divide the total number of words you read by 5
5. Use your true number of words per minute in your calculations rather than our average of 200 words per minute

**This chart assumes that you are reading at a rate of 100 words per minute.**

Grade	Reading time per night	Books per night	Number of books per school year at home (same number read at school)
Kindergarten	20 minutes read aloud per night 7 nights per week	2 picture books	500 picture books (one thousand words per book)
First	20 minutes read aloud per night 7 nights per week	2 picture books	500 picture books (one thousand words per book)
Second	20 minutes read aloud per night 7 nights per week	2 picture books or 1/2 early reader	250 early readers with 80 pages, 50 words per page
Third	20 minutes read aloud per night 7 nights per week	1/2 early reader or part of a chapter book	40 chapter books with an average of 100 pages
Fourth	20 minutes read aloud per night 7 nights per week	Part of a chapter book	26 chapter books with an average of 150 pages
Fifth	20 minutes per night 7 nights per week	Part of a chapter book	20 chapter books with an average of 200 pages
Middle and High School	20 minutes per night 7 nights per week	one anime book or part of a chapter book	See chapter books and Anime notes below

### How much reading time per night to reach my million word goal?

If you're reading aloud to your child it takes approximately **one minute to read 100 words**, and **10 minutes to read 1000 words**. That's a total of 10,000 minutes to read a million words.

If you read aloud 20 minutes that's 2,000 words ( $20 \times 100 = 2,000$ )

If you read aloud 7 nights a week, 20 minutes each night ( $20 \times 100 \times 7 = 14,000$ )  
140 minutes per week

If you read October 1 – June 15 - 37 weeks ( $20 \times 100 \times 7 \times 37 = 518,000$ ) – The same amount will be read at school as well to put your child over the million word mark.

**Or Use your own calculated words per minute as described above.**

### How many books per night to reach my million word goal?

#### Picture books

An average picture book has 1,000 words per picture book  
<http://www.right-writing.com/genres.html>

How many words per night?

If I read 2 books per night at 1000 words per picture book  
 $1,000 \times 2 = 2,000$  words per night

How many words per week?

2000 words per night multiplied by 7 nights a week  
 $2000 \times 7 = 14,000$  words per week

How many words per school year?

14,000 words per week and 37 weeks per school year  
 $14,000 \times 37 = 518,000$

Since  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the reading will be done at school – ( $518,000 + 518,000$ ) = 1,036,000 just slightly over the million word goal)

#### Early Reader

The average early reader has 80 words per page and 50 pages per book  
 $80 \times 50 = 4000$  words per book

How many per night?

If you read  $\frac{1}{2}$  of early reader per night, that's 2000 words per night.

How many words per week?

If you read 7 nights a week  
 $2000 \times 7 = 14,000$  words per week

How many words per school year?

14,000 words per week and 37 weeks from Oct 1- June 15  
 $14,000 \times 38 = 518,000$

Since  $\frac{1}{2}$  of the reading will be done at school – (518,000  
+ 518,000= 1,036,000 just slightly over the million word goal)

### **Chapter books**

Chapter books average 250 words per page.

If there are 100 pages in the books you are reading then you would need to read 40 books to reach the million word goal in 40 weeks. **These books would be read at school and at home.**

If there are 150 pages on average in your books you would need 26 books to be very close to the million word goal in 37 weeks.

If your books are closer to 200 pages then you only need to read 20 books to reach the million word goal in 37 weeks.

If your books are averaging 300 pages then only 13 books to meet the million word goal in 37 weeks.

### **Anime**

20 words per page 200 average = 4,000 words per book or 250 anime books per school year to reach your million word goal.