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Subject: Language Arts

Level: 3 Lesson No. 1

[The John A. Widstoe Reading Club](#)

The John A. Widstoe Reading Club is based on a quote by Elder Widstoe given at April General Conference in 1939. It requires its members to work up to reading 30 minutes a day and then maintain that practice (habit) throughout their school experience, and, hopefully, their lives.

Who Is John A. Widstoe?



Latter-day Apostle
Educator
Scientist
Example for Youth

About John A. Widstoe:

<https://www.churchofjesuschrist.org/church/news/john-a-widstoe-new-monument-honors-a-legacy-of-education?lang=eng>

More about John A. Widstoe

https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/John_A._Widstoe

HINT: On the Left side there is the option of getting a printable or a downloadable version of the article. One or the other of these is recommended.

Or, just read through the article online.



Elder Widstoe at the Library.

The John A. Widstoe Reading Club is based on the following quote by Elder Widstoe, given in a General Conference address, April, 1939. It can be found in the Conference Report, page 21.

“The reading habit is most valuable in life. I mean by that the practice of using a little time, say half an hour a day, in the systematic reading of worthwhile literature. The mind is opened to precious fields of thought; the achievements of the ages become ours; even the future takes form. As the mind and spirit are fed by well chosen reading, comfort, peace and understanding come to the soul. Those who have not tried it, have missed a keen and easily accessible joy. Moreover a person who engages in such a regular daily reading, if only a few minutes a day, in the course of a few years becomes a learned man. But it must be a regular daily habit. ... Some of the best educated men that I have ever met have never been to college but have acquired the habit of daily reading of good books for a few minutes a day.”

Ascent Advantage Academy encourages its students to work-up to reading 30 minutes a day in topics of interest to them. Regular school work, especially reading of textbooks, does NOT count toward the 30 minutes of Widstoe Book Club Reading.

Prizes are given periodically for those who reach milestones in their reading. For example, when a student has read 500 pages or later, a 1,000, or 5,000 or 25 books, 100 books, etc. he/she is duly recognized for his/her achievement.

In order to recognize such an achievement, records must be kept. We ask that such a record be kept in a separate Reading Journal (Composition Book). The record should look like the one on the following page.

Date: _____

Title _____

Author _____

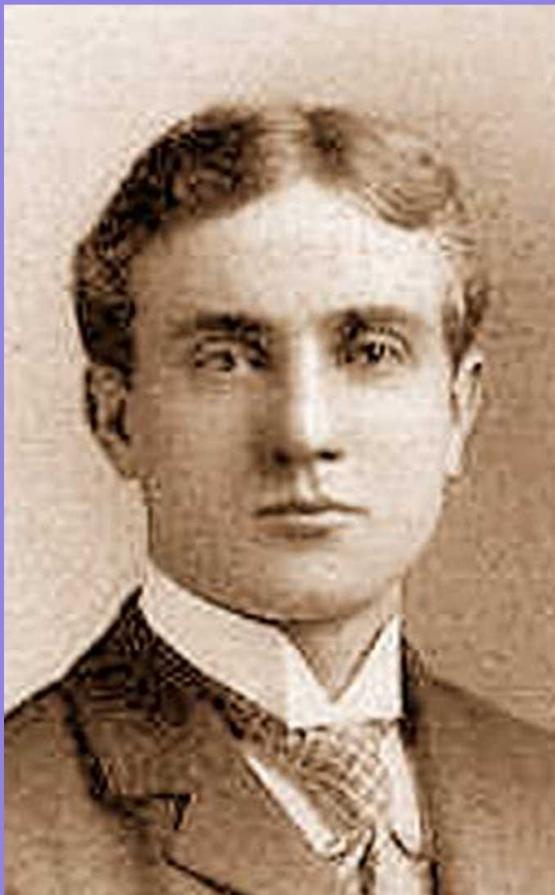
Date Published _____ No. of Pages _____

Source of Book or Article – Internet – Library or _____

Review of the Reading: _____

Write as many lines as it takes for you to tell the story or the main points.
Include why you did or didn't like it, and what you learned from reading it.

A Final Quote from Elder Widstoe



*“Happiness in life is only
obtained by having a pure heart,
a clear conscience;
and fearing the Lord
and keeping his commandments;
also as I realize that
happiness in old age
consists of reviewing
a life devoid from great sins;
the gratification of noble
desires manfully carried out.”*

—
- John A. Widstoe, *17 Resolutions for Life*, January 2, 1891

See <http://dailymormonthoughts.com>

John A. Widstoe is not the only voice or example of daily reading.

Watch this video: Other Voices

Ben Carson's Advice For Young People Who Want To Be Successful – The Example of Reading

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=TaXdSr95_LY