## Time Out



## Time Out...Read!!

We have created a cohort of teachers, churches, authors, non-profit educators, and libraries to address literacy challenges in our community. Using data from local schools and input from cohort members, we assessed reading levels and access to reading materials to establish a starting point. The Time-Out program is designed to engage, educate, and support children and their families. Its goal is to teach children how to think critically rather than simply what to think. We will explore meaningful life, family, and community themes through discussions and activities.

## The Plan:

The cohort will carefully select meaningful books for children to keep, potentially starting with Black history themes. Families will read the books together before attending discussion sessions. Educators will provide open-ended questions to encourage exploration and sharing of ideas. Selected books will address caring, inquiry, and sustainability themes to foster meaningful conversations. After Time-Out concludes, the program will introduce strategies for continued family bonding through reading and encourage using libraries and other resources. By promoting criticalthinking skills, we aim to nurture lifelong readers and learners who can positively impact the world.

## How the Program Works:





**Engage** Promote reading skills.



Educate Promote critical thinking skills.



Support Promote community involvement.