

Unlucky Arithmetic

Thirteen Ways to Raise a Nonreader

BY DEAN SCHNEIDER AND ROBIN SMITH

- 1 Never read** where your children can see you.
- 2 Put a TV or computer** in every room. Don't neglect the bedrooms and kitchen.
- 3 Correct your child** every time she mispronounces a word.
- 4 Schedule activities** every day after school so your child will never be bored.
- 5 Once your child can read independently, throw out the picture books.** They're for babies.
- 6 Don't play** board games together. Too dull.
- 7 Give little rewards** for reading. **Stickers** and plastic toys are nice. **Money** is even better.
- 8 Don't expect your children to enjoy reading.** Kids' books are for **teaching** vocabulary, proper study habits, and good **morals**.
- 9 Buy only 40-watt bulbs** for your lamps.
- 10 Under no** circumstances read your child the same book **over and over**. She heard it once, she should remember it.
- 11 Never allow your child to listen to books on tape; that's cheating.**
- 12 Make sure your kids only read books that are "challenging."** **Easy** books are a complete **waste of time**. That goes double for comic books and *Mad* magazine.
- 13 Absolutely, positively no reading in bed.**