



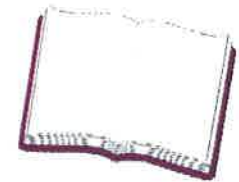
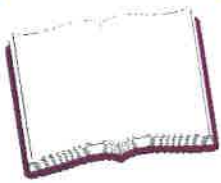
# Summer Reading

**Dear Families,**

Attached you will find some summer reading activities for your child/family. I hope this gives you some wonderful ideas on ways to incorporate reading into your summer activities. Please enjoy and have a great summer! If you have any questions, or your child would like to email me to stay in touch over the summer (which I would LOVE), please have them email me at [speters@abramsonline.org](mailto:speters@abramsonline.org). I hope you all have a safe, happy summer and I'll see you "next year"!

**Love,**

**Mrs. Peters**



## Reasons to Read Over the Summer



Reading over the summer is a fantastic way to help students prevent becoming a victim of the dreaded summer slide. The summer slide isn't a fun ride, but a term that describes what happens to students that avoid reading over the summer. The Summer slide is when students slide backwards, or regress, in their reading skills over the summer.

Avoid losing the reading progress you have made this school year by reading over the summer. Make a list of books that you are interested in reading. Visit the library to check these books out.

A study conducted at Harvard Graduate School of Education found that if you read at least five to six books over the summer, you can prevent losing all of the reading skills you have gained this school year.

Be creative with your reading time. Read while you eat breakfast or lunch. Take a book outside and find a nice shady spot under a tree so you can get lost in a book. Pack a book if you are going on a vacation, road trip, or even to the grocery store. Every minute counts!





## Parent Tips for Summer Reading

Research shows that children who do not read during the summer months can lose up to three months of reading progress. Continual loss over every summer can have serious long-term effects on a child's educational development.

The goal of all teachers is to see students make as many gains as possible each year so all children can be college and career ready by the time they graduate from high school.

Efforts should be made during the summer to help children sustain reading new skills, practice reading, and read for enjoyment. Studies indicate that children who read at least five to six books over the summer are more likely to maintain the literacy skills they have gained over the course of the school year.

Reading helps to build comprehension, critical thinking, visualization, and language abilities. Taking time to read with your child can help your son or daughter continue to progress over the summer, help create a positive reading habit, foster a stronger relationship with you, and turn your child into a lifelong reader.



School's!  
OUT!



# Tips for Encouraging Reading



Here are some ways that you can help your child with reading over the summer.

## 1. Make it fun!

Make reading fun for your child by being creative! Read outdoors, at the park, on a patio, a picnic blanket, the beach, camping, or any other outdoor venue that you have access to.



## 2. Create family reading time every day.

Make reading a family event. Let your child read aloud to you. Do you have a pet? Let your child read to your pet! Kids love it and pets can make a great audience! If you don't have a pet, let your child read to a stuffed animal. Read aloud to your child. Have fun with the reading and use funny voices to help your child stay engaged and see how enjoyable reading can be.



## 3. Model reading by being a reader!

Parents are great models for children and if your child sees you reading, they will be more likely to read. Set aside 30 minutes a day for family reading time. Turn off the TV and other electronics, silence cellphones, and have each family member read his or her books, including parents and guardians. Whether you all read aloud together, or each person is reading his or her own book, you are creating a wonderful example and positive experience for your child.



## 4. Ensure your child has plenty of access to reading materials.

Keep lots of reading materials around the house, including the newspaper, magazines, books, sale ads, or even travel brochures.





## Tips for Encouraging Reading



### 5. Take your child to the library regularly

Regular visits to the library will keep your family inundated with fun, new reading materials. Plus, libraries provide a plethora of free resources beyond books. Check the library for special summer events, reading activities, and fun classes.



### 6. Purchase or check out audio books

Listen to audio books in the car during quick trips to the store, longer trips to visit family, or road trips. For an added benefit, check out the accompanying book and have your child follow along with the audio to see the words as they hear them read aloud.



### 7. Encourage your child to start a summer book club

Students can start book clubs with friends in the neighborhood or with friends from school. Help your child set up weekly reading pages and discussion questions. Take turns car pooling the members so they can meet and talk about the books. If this isn't possible, help your child set up an online book club page, Skype, FaceTime, Google hangout, or another form of a technological meet up.



### 8. Talk to your child about what he or she is reading.

Ask your child questions about what he or she is reading. Talk to you child about what the characters are doing, where story is set, what he or she thinks will happen next, and other questions that will show thinking and comprehension. Engage your child in a discussion that readers would partake in to show how fun it can be to read!





## Questions and Ideas to Ask Your Child About Reading

Characters and Characterization: Ask your child to tell you who the characters are in the story. Who are the characters in the story? Who is a main character and who are minor characters? How does the author develop, or show the reader what the character's personality is like? (What the character says, thinks, does, feels, etc.)

Summary: Have your child write a summary or verbally tell you the key events or ideas from his or her reading. Ask your child about the 5 W's, or who, what, when, where, and why as it applies to the story.

Context Clues: Have your child determine the meaning of unknown words using context clues. Context clues are hints from the author that help a reader understand the meaning of words. Ask your child to tell you what words mean and how they were able to figure that out.

Figurative Language: Have your child identify and explain the meaning of figurative language as they come across it during his or her reading. Ask them about lines that are figurative language and what the author was trying to describe or explain.

- Simile-A comparison of two unlike things using like or as
- Metaphor-A comparison of two unlike things NOT using like or as
- Personification-Giving human qualities to inanimate objects
- Alliteration-The repetition of the first letter of a word in a sentence
- Onomatopoeia-when a word sounds like what it is describing (boom, pow, etc.)
- Hyperbole-An extreme exaggeration

Plot-Plot includes the main events in the story. The plot revolves around resolving a conflict, or the problem in a story. Ask your child to tell you what the main events in the story are. What are the conflicts? How is the character trying to resolve the conflict? What is the final resolution of the main problem or conflict in the story?





# Summer Reading Log



<u>Book Title</u>	<u>Author</u>



Love  
that Summer  
Feeling



1/2 ON





# Summer Reading Ideas





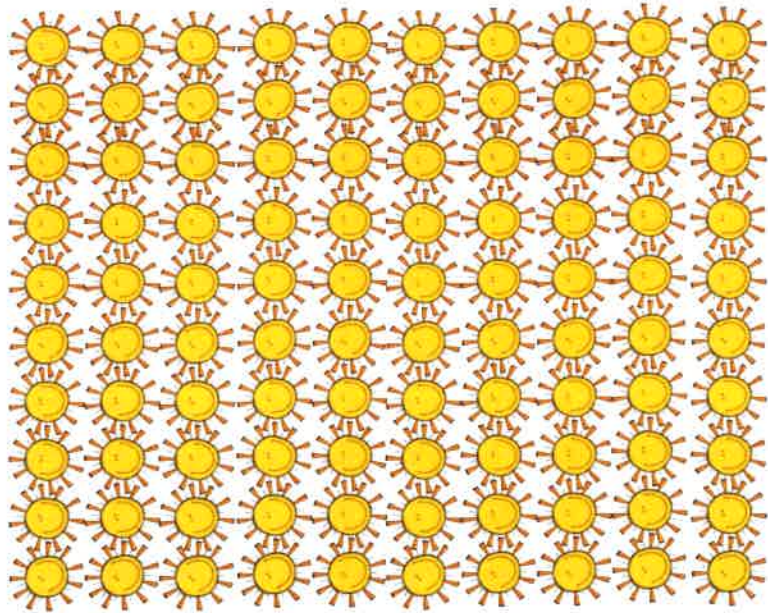
- \* Visit the public library
- \* Visit the bookstore
- \* Listen to books while driving
- \* Take turns reading
- \* Find fun places to read
- \* Try a new book series
- \* Re-read an old favorite
- \* Swap books with a friend
- \* Find books at a thrift store
- \* Read books about places you hope to visit one day
- \* Have a family poetry reading night with a microphone
- \* Have a reading picnic on a blanket outside
- \* Read books, then watch the movie version and compare



# Summer Reading Challenge

Goal: Read 100 books this summer!

 Each  represents 1 book. Every time you read a book, check off one sun. When you check all of the suns, that means you have read 100 books!



I read ----- books this summer!

My favorite book that I read:

# Summer Reading

## A Guide for Parents





Dear Parents,

Your child has worked very hard this year! According to research,\* students who do not read over the summer can lose as much as 22% of their reading level. That means 2 months of school, down the drain!

You can help prevent this summer reading loss by encouraging your child to read over the summer. Try to read something everyday, whether it's a book, recipe, or a menu. Every word counts.

Here's to making this a summer of reading!

\*Research from Reading is Fundamental (www.rif.org)



# Read a Book Online

Here are some great websites to read online:

Storyline Online—celebrities read aloud favorite children's books  
<http://www.storylineonline.net>



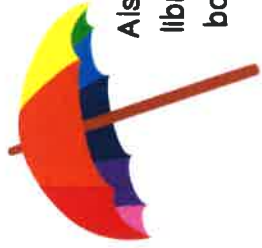
International Children's Library—a large collection of stories from around the world  
<http://en.childrenslibrary.org>



Storynory—a variety of fun and colorful stories to read online  
<http://www.storynory.com>



DOGOnews—current events news stories and articles on a variety of nonfiction topics  
<https://dogonews.com>



Also, check with your local library. Many lend free e-books for Kindle or other tablets!

## Recommended Authors



Grades K-2  
Eric Carle  
Margaret Wise Brown

Leo Leanni  
Mary Pope Osborne  
Dr. Seuss

Sandra Boynton  
Barbara Park  
Donald Crews  
Lois Ehler  
Bill Martin Jr.

Jan Brett  
Marc Brown  
Tomie DePaola  
Steven Kellogg  
Maurice Sendak  
Jane Yolen

Grades 3-5  
Sharon Creech  
Louis Sachar  
Lemony Snicket  
Shel Silverstein

Jeff Kinney  
RJ Palacio  
Lois Lowry  
Jack Prelutsky  
Madeline L'Engle  
Beverly Cleary  
Patricia Polacco

EB White  
Roald Dahl  
Chris VanAllsburg  
Judy Blume  
Jean Fritz





# KEEP your child READING!



## 7 Tips to make summer reading fun!

### Tip #1:

**Create opportunities and times that your child will want to read.** Have your child read at least 20 minutes everyday. But, don't make this an obligation, chore, or "must do." Go to the library and sign up for the free incentive programs. Visit a cool book store and give your child \$10 cash upon arrival. Create a reading nook or fort in your child's bedroom.

### Tip #2:

**Read along side your child. Model reading.** Talk enthusiastically about books you're reading. Research shows that one of the greatest indicators of children's literacy success is having role models and guardians who show they value reading. This is especially true for dads!

### Tip #3:

**It's not all about books!** Have your child read and write recipes, scavenger hunts, treasure maps, "how-to" articles, travel brochures, song lyrics, game directions... the list goes on and on. Create a literate environment! Place interesting reading material everywhere and kill the mandatory 20-minute timer! Find amazingly interesting things that kids will just be drawn into reading without even realizing they are reading.

### Tip #4:

**Make literacy social.** Have your child join a book club, organize a neighborhood book swap, perform a skit with friends, or host a poetry slam. It can be virtual or bring these opportunities to life in a coffee shop, park, or even at the pool.

### Tip #5:

**CHOICE builds motivation.** Let your child have as much choice as possible about what they read. Obviously, age and maturity appropriate, but research points to building literacy motivation through interest and choice. If your child has required summer reading, build excitement around it and supplement with trips to the library and bookstore where some high-interest, choice material is available.

### Tip #6:

**In a perfect world, every day, every child...**

- Reads something they choose.
- Reads something accurately.
- Reads something they understand.
- Writes about something that is meaningful to them.
- Talks to peers about their reading and writing.
- Listens to a fluent adult read aloud.

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### Tip #7:

**Literacy Online.** We know that right now we are all trying to limit screen time so this should *not* replace tangible books, but it can add some variety on long summer days. Check out our favorites in the included list.



# The Ultimate Summer Reading Challenge



Directions: Each time you complete one of the reading challenges, color in the book. See how many challenges you can complete by the end of the summer!



at the park



with a friend



on a beanbag



on a swing



up in a tree



in a treehouse



with a flashlight under a blanket



under a tree



in a homemade tent



with a sibling



by the pool or lake



with a parent



in your bed



with a grandparent



on the front porch



to a friend



on the back deck



on the stairs



in the car



to a pet



on a playset



at the library



in your closet



while waiting in line



in the bathtub or hot tub



while eating ice-cream



on a picnic



while eating breakfast



on the couch



free choice:












# The Ultimate Genre Reading Challenge



Directions: Each time you read a book, write the title in the genre box. See if you can complete every genre by the end of the summer. Which one was your favorite?

## Genre Tracker- Book Title

 Fantasy	
 Mystery	
 Science Fiction	
 Biography	
 Humor	
 Fairy Tale	
 Adventure	
 Poetry	
 Non-fiction	

# KEEP READING!



## Literacy Games and Fun Online



PBS Kids

<http://pbskids.org/>



PSD links

<https://www.psdschools.org/websites/literacy-websites>



ABCya

<http://www.abcya.com/lightbot.htm>



Bethke Websites

<http://www.bethkeelementary.com/student-links.html>



Enchanted Learning

<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/usa/states/colorado/>



Word Wall

<https://wordwall.net/community>



Epic!

<https://www.getepic.com/>



Madlibs

<http://www.funbrain.com/>



Find Book Levels

<http://www.arbookfind.com/UserType.aspx>

<http://www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/>



Newsela

<https://newsela.com/>