

# Summertime Reading



It's summer. It's time to relax, spend time outside, visit friends and enjoy your time as a family. But don't stop reading. Make it part of your family's summer fun.

Research shows children lose one to three months of learning every summer. They can forget math and reading skills they worked hard to acquire during the school year. Then they have to work even harder to catch up in the fall. You can help prevent this learning loss.

Reading every day, even if it's for just a few minutes, improves children's ability to read and learn all year long. On the next page you will find ideas/activities that involve reading and related skills. Just pick the ones that look interesting and fun – Enjoy!

## **Summer Activities to Encourage Reading and Writing**

- Read several books about one topic.
- Read several books by one author.
- Partner read a story.
- Have fun reading in the dark with a flashlight.
- Read outside under a shade tree.
- Read aloud to your child.
- Each of you read the same book and then talk about it.
- Encourage reading by allowing kids to read in bed.
- Encourage your child to read different kinds of texts – books, newspaper articles, magazines, appropriate blogs and websites.
- Find time to write authentically (letters, e-mails, stories, and lists).
- Encourage your child to keep a journal. Write a couple of sentences about the day or week.
- Encourage your child to finish a piece of writing and give it as a gift.
- Visit the library and or book store.
- Visit a favorite author's webpage and read it together.
- Get books to support their hobbies and interests.
- Find a recipe to make it together.
- Make a bookmark about a favorite book.
- Learn the lyrics to a new song.

