

*The more you read, the more things you will know.
The more that you learn, the more places you'll go." - Dr. Seuss*

Dear Rising First Grade Families,

We are so excited about next year! In our opinion, first grade is the BEST year of all. As we know, children lose a great deal of learning over the summer. It is important to balance a bit of academic work with movement, play, and just plain FUN in the summer. Keeping this in mind, we would like to offer a couple of suggestions.

- 1) The public library is your best friend. They have a wonderful summer reading program. This is a fabulous opportunity for your child to get his/her very own library card! The book selection is incredible and the program is free!
- 2) Have your child keep a reading log of the books he/she reads over the summer. They have a separate sheet for each month. They should record their five favorites for each month on the back of the page. Also, have them choose one activity from the board to complete that represents the book they read from the choice board below (attached). The requirement is for them to do one activity from the board with at least one book they have read, but they are welcome to do more of the activities if they so choose!
- 3) Just as helping prevent the *summer slide* is important for academic learning over the summer, movement and play are important, too! We encourage you to have students choose activities that will foster brain development in a multitude of ways! Take a look at the brain development choice board and challenge your child to do as many activities over the summer as they can! These are just ideas- not a requirement!
- 4) Use your imagination, be creative, and talk together! We hope you have a wonderful summer. We are looking forward to a fun filled year with your child!

Best regards,

First Grade Team

Reading Response Choice Board

<p>Video It! Have an adult video record you making a commercial to persuade the class to read your favorite book that you have read this summer! (Have your parents share it electronically with your teacher.)</p>	<p>Build It! Make a mobile that shows the main characters and the setting of your favorite story!</p>
<p>Make a Comic: https://www.makebeliefscomix.com/ With an adult, use make belief comix to create a comic that tells us the best part of your favorite book that you have read this summer! Or, draw one of your own!</p>	<p>Draw It! Design a new book cover for the book you read! Be prepared to share it along with your favorite part of the book with your class.</p>
<p>Design it! Make a diorama to show your favorite part of the story. https://feltmagnet.com/crafts/shoebox-diorama</p>	<p>Create it! Use your imagination! Come up with a way to share your favorite story with us!</p>

Brain Development Choice Board

<p style="text-align: center;">Go to a local playground!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Kids Yoga! https://www.gonoodle.com/</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Make Slime! http://www.elmers.com/slime</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Slip and Slide Relay Race Set up a slip and slide and use a timer to time kids as they race down the slide. Children can sit on their bottom, lay on their belly, or slide on their back for variations in positioning.</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Do Some Chores!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vacuuming ● Mopping ● Sweeping ● Dusting ● Making your bed ● Folding clothes ● Mowing grass 	<p style="text-align: center;">Make Homemade Cookies!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Have a Backyard Dance Party!</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Rock Climbing! https://www.climbupstate.com/</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Make a necklace or a bracelet!</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Play Gross Motor Bingo! https://www.pinterest.com/pin/95771929553300675/</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Go to the Trampoline Park! http://www.bigairusa.com/spartanburg/</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Go to Pump It Up! http://www.kidspartycenterspartanburg.com</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Shaving Cream Fun!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Spread out shaving cream on a surface and write words or numbers
<p style="text-align: center;">Fun Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Swinging ● Running ● Skipping ● Riding on trikes/bikes ● Jumping/bouncing on trampolines, beds, balls 	<p style="text-align: center;">More Fun Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Have a pillow fight! ● Build a fort! ● Play tug of war! ● Dig in the garden or sandbox- or at the beach! 	<p style="text-align: center;">Science Crystal Names https://www.playdoughtoplato.com/kids-science-crystal-names/</p>
<p style="text-align: center;">Water Cycle in a Bag https://www.playdoughtoplato.com/water-cycle-bag/</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Make Toothpaste! https://www.playdoughtoplato.com/minty-reindeer-toothpaste/</p>	<p style="text-align: center;">Ice Fishing! https://www.playdoughtoplato.com/sticky-ice-science-exp/</p>