

We hope you find these resources helpful as we approach a unique summer. We offer simple suggestions for creating balance in your household and various resources that you may enjoy exploring with your children. Have a safe, healthy, and happy summer!

Suggestions for Creating Balance



- **1. Maintain a routine:** A daily schedule does not have to be jam packed, or planned to the hour. Still, keeping mealtimes and bedtimes as consistent as possible can be helpful. Involving children in developing a summer routine can be empowering.
- **2. Incorporate academic time:** Engaging in learning (reading, writing, online learning, hands-on learning, workbook practice) every day will help keep children engaged mentally. The amount of dedicated academic time will be a family decision.
- **3. Limit Screen Time:** Children have been exposed to a lot of screen time during quarantine. Especially in the prek to grade 3 age range it is beneficial for children to engage in open-ended play. Playing with open-ended toys (like LEGOS, blocks, dolls, etc.) and outdoor play is extremely valuable.
- **4. Stay connected:** Making as much time to safely connect with family and friends while socially distancing can be a protective factor against the loneliness and stress associated with isolation.
- **5. Reward/Acknowledge positive behavior:** Positive reinforcement is extremely powerful. When you notice positive behaviors acknowledge them verbally.

Educational Resources



NFA Summer Reading Website: Mrs. Guller provides a recommendation list for each grade and reading logs. Keep checking back as the recommendations are often updated.

*This website offers a full page dedicated to additional reading resources that might come in handy at home!

IXL: Students and teachers log into IXL through the app or website with their IXL login and password. IXL offers Language, Science, and Social Studies skill practice as well.

Website/App Resource List: Thank you to Mrs. Flaherty for starting this wonderful list of enriching learning opportunities including virtual field trips, documentaries, podcasts, and educational websites.

<u>CBW Recommended Workbooks and Study Guides</u>: Children's Book World also provides this gradelevel list of recommended workbooks and study guides to support academic engagement at home over the summer.

<u>DIY Science Camp</u>: This resource includes six themes (Bees, Flight, Archeology, Be an Inventor, Weather Report, and The Night Sky), a sample schedule for activities, PDF resources, book lists, and even recommended websites and apps to enrich learning on a topic.

<u>Tech-Free Activity Choice Board</u>: Our enrichment teachers put together this awesome choice board to keep kids engaged in activities that connect back to their enrichment classes. All are tech-free!

STEM Choice Board: Miss Monteiro created a list of Family STEM challenges, filled with really cool tasks using household materials. No materials? No problem! She recommends encouraging kids to think creatively about what they could use to complete the task OR to simply create the brainstorm/blueprint of how to go about completing the task.

Go Noodle: Provides Mindfulness activities as well as physical fitness and fun movement choices in quick follow-along dance and movement video.

<u>Virtual Field Trips</u>: We've all seen these out there, but this list is a comprehensive overview, with trips that cover a variety of topics. Direct links are provided.