



ASFM

**Summer Fun
Recommendations
2nd Edition**

SUMMER 2020



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The Ultimate Summer Bucket List

the
ULTIMATE
SUMMER
BUCKET LIST

TOP 10 DIY ACTIVITIES

1. [Simple "Paint" Outdoors Activity](#)
2. [Water Table or Sandbox](#)
3. [Make it Rain](#)
4. [Make a Foil River](#)
5. [Marshmallow Toothpick Sculptures](#)
6. [Painting With Bubbles](#)
7. [Dazzling Marbled Paper](#)
8. [Simple Tin Can Lanterns](#)
9. [Flip Flop Cookies](#)
10. [The Thankful Tree](#)

Reading Challenges

Challenge 1: Read the book before you see the movie.

Film adaptations of books are always popular, but most people agree: It's better to read the book first.

Can you read all nine of these before you watch the movie?

Challenge 2: Find a new favorite.

Give your cherished copies of your all-time faves a summer vacation, too, and try these similar picks.

- If you love *Harry Potter*, you'll love these *magical fantasies*.
- If you swoon over realistic fiction like John Green's *The Fault in Our Stars*, grab the Kleenex and *try these*.

Challenge 3: Read around the world.

"Travel" to faraway places and learn about new cultures with these diverse picks.

- Get bit by the travel bug with these [books about planes, trains, and automobiles](#).
- Take a trip to Chile, Mexico, Cuba, and more with these [books about Latinos](#).
- From there, hop over to India, China, Vietnam, and all across Asia with these [books about Asians and Asian Americans](#).
- Don't forget Afghanistan, Nepal, Ireland, and [so many other cultures worldwide](#).

Challenge 4: Find your inner "upstander."

Help kids inoculate themselves against bullying by practicing empathy and acceptance of differences.

- Learn how to [identify bullies in real life](#).
- Help kids build [their self-esteem](#).
- Put yourself [in other people's shoes](#).
- Learn to [appreciate people's differences](#).

Challenge 5: Get technical.

Techie kids and STEM lovers can get in on the action with these books (and apps, too).

- If you prefer multiplication and microscopes, these [math and science books](#) will spark your curiosity.
- Tech lovers who think reading is boring can try [these apps](#) to see if it's really as dull as they think.
- Story lovers who want a lightweight alternative when they're on the go can download [these book apps](#).
- If you want to like reading but need to boost your skills a bit first, start with these [fun games and reading resources](#).

Challenge 6: Crown the best of the best.

All these picks have been honored by major literary awards, but which are really the best?

- When choosing between *The Crossover* and Calpurnia Tate, it won't be easy to decide **which of these books is the best work of children's literature.**
- It's up to you to pick **which of these picture books has the best art.**
- All of these books are by renowned African American authors and illustrators. **Can you choose your favorite?**
- Decide **which of these is the best book for teens.**

**Boost your
Math Skills**

5 Apps to Boost Math Skills over the Summer

1. **Dragonbox Big Numbers:** In a whimsical land called Noomia, kids collect resources, add them, regroup, and subtract when they buy supplies to accomplish various tasks. As they progress, new areas and challenges unlock, and numbers get larger. **Skills:** addition, subtraction, grouping

Why We Like It

- It's a unique and fun next step for kids who have mastered basic addition and subtraction.
- Leveling up slowly and letting kids work with numbers visually and in numerals helps kids master the skills no matter their learning style or pace.
- The gradual addition of new worlds and challenges makes the repetition of collecting resources and practicing skills more engaging.

2. **Marble Math:** In this fantastic app, kids see math problems -- such as "Collect fractions that add up to 2" -- at the top of the screen and then navigate through a maze with a marble to pick up answers to the problem. **Skills:** addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, fractions, Roman numerals, decimals, etc

Why We Like It

- The tricky mazes are fun to move through and solve.
- Kids are empowered to customize the experience to their needs by selecting their level of difficulty, the specific skills they want to focus on, and more.
- Users get good feedback and help; the "show me" button lets them see the correct maze pattern and math answer.

5 Apps to Boost Math Skills over the Summer

Motion Math Cupcake (now part of the

Motion Math app): For their new bakery, kids must design, name, and make cupcakes. As they take orders and deliver them, kids do the basic math that comes with the territory of buying and selling. **Skills:** addition, subtraction, multiplication, arithmetic, counting, fractions, graphing

Prodigy Math Game: After choosing an avatar, kids earn spells by completing math problems and use them to defeat monsters. Along the way kids can earn rewards; the game adapts to a kid's skill level.

Skills: addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, counting, equations, fractions, functions, geometry, numbers, probability, ratio, statistics

Why We Like It

- Math skills are baked right in to the activities, so there are no distractions from learning.
- Placing kids in a business setting shows how math skills are useful in real life.
- The varied activities keep it interesting as the game gets more challenging.

Why We Like It

- Using the math to propel the game forward can motivate kids to keep practicing.
- It covers a variety of math concepts within the look and feel of an adventure game.
- Though there's definitely pressure to subscribe, kids can use this game totally for free (and parents can set expectations around subscribing before downloading).

5 Apps to Boost Math Skills over the Summer

Sushi Monster: Kids playing Sushi Monster work in reverse to solve addition and multiplication problems. Each round begins with a set of target numbers. The chef puts numbered plates of sushi on the counter, and kids must choose the correct combination of plates to meet the target, thereby feeding the sushi monster. **Skills:** addition, multiplication



Why We Like It

- With engaging characters and achievable rewards, kids could easily get hooked on this fun math game.
- It puts a spin on the traditional drill-and-practice method of memorizing addition and multiplication tables.
- It's free.



Science Wizards

Science Wizards

Summer is the perfect time for children to explore their extracurricular interests, like science. Here are some activities that will have children hypothesizing all the way to August.

- [Layers of the Ocean Habitat Project](#)
- [Exploring Sunography](#)
- [Make Ocean Summer Slime](#)
- [Leak Proof Bag Science Experiment](#)
- [Lego Shadow Towers](#)
- [Ocean Currents Science Experiment](#)
- [Epic Bottle Rocket](#)
- [Make Your Own Dinosaur Dig Excavation Activity](#)



Reading Rockets

Video Interview's with Children's Author's

Reading Rockets has an extensive library of video interviews with award - winning children's authors.

We have selected the following writers and illustrators whose work focudes on science and math themes.

1. Buzz Aldrin, [*Look to the Stars*](#)
2. Eric Carle, [*The Very Hungry Caterpillar*](#)
3. Vicki Cobb, [*Science Experiments You Can Eat*](#)
4. Joanna Cole, [*The Magic School Bus series*](#)
5. Sneed Collard, [*Animal Dads*](#)
6. David Shannon, [*No, David!*](#)
7. Gail Gibbons, [*How a House is Build*](#)
8. Sy Montgomery, [*The Good, Good Pig*](#)
9. Jane Yolen, [*How Do Dinosaurs Say Goodnight?*](#)
10. Tanya Lee Stone, [*Almost Astronauts*](#)

Literacy in the Sciences Tip Sheets

These 18 tip sheets are all about literacy in the sciences and are written just for parents. They are available in English and Spanish. Each tip sheet includes simple activities you can do with your child to build literacy and beginning science skills. Each tip sheet also includes a set of recommended picture books to extend the learning. These tip sheets are part of our Growing Readers parent newsletter series. [Subscribe to Growing Readers](#) and get the latest edition delivered right to your inbox.

Click on each topic to access the link

- Outdoor Explorations
- Steps of the Scientific Process
- STEM Tools at Home
- Making Predictions
- Taking Measurements
- Recording Observations:
- Science vs. Science Fiction!
- Recording Observations:
Patterns and Categorizing
- Teaching Sequence
- Cause and Effect
- Making Inferences and
Drawing Conclusions
- Creating Bar Charts
- Share What You Discover!
Publishing Your Work
- How to Read Nonfiction Text
- The Vocabulary of Science
- Research and Information
Literacy
- Think Like an Inventor

Exciting Outdoor Activities

**A Staycation can be as fun as you wish. Just be creative and let go!
Kids have great ideas and might even share variations for the games.
Here is a list of backyard activities that are easy and fun to try!**

1. Have a picnic
2. Read a book
3. Draw with Sidewalk chalk
4. Go camping
5. Paint with shaving cream
6. Toss water balloons
7. Run Through the Sprinkler
8. Splash in a puddle
9. Plant a garden
10. Paint Rocks
11. Jump Rope
12. Play hopscotch
13. Play tic tac toe
14. Fly a Kite
15. Make and fly paper airplanes

16. Make a bird feeder
17. Make an obstacle course
18. Paint a garden
19. Blow bubbles
20. Build a fort
21. Set up an outdoor movie night
22. Look for constellations in the sky
23. Do a sack race with pillow cases
24. Play kickball
25. Learn to hula hoop
26. Set up a bean bag toss
27. Try an egg and spoon race
28. Do a scavenger hunt
29. Play hide and seek
30. Build towers with rocks

Best Summer Learning Games

Want to keep learning during the summer? Here are four great ideas that will help you practice and enhance your learning!

1. GO ON A WORD HUNT

This activity helps your child build both reading and counting skills. Create a word list, writing each of the words on a sticky note. Hide each sticky note somewhere in the house. Help your child use the word list to search for as many of the words as he or she can find. Each time your child finds a word, ask him or her to read it out loud. Once your child has found all the words, read them again and count how many of each word he or she found. You can also build advanced skills by having your child use the words found to create a sentence or short story.

2. CREATE A SIDEWALK WORD LADDER

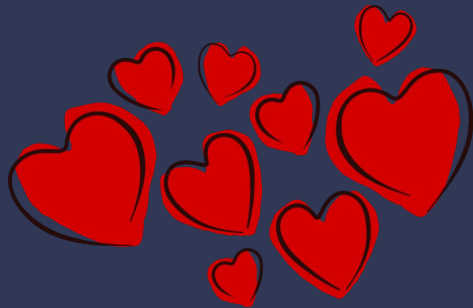
Practice reading and spelling skills and have fun outside at the same time with a chalk word ladder. Write out a word on each empty space of the ladder, and have your child start at the bottom. Each time he or she moves up the ladder, ask your child to sound out the word he or she lands on. When he or she reaches the top, turn around and do the ladder backward. You can also practice counting by swapping the words out for letters.

3. PLAY AN OUTDOOR MEMORY GAME

Practice words, math problems, matching, and more with this giant outdoor paper plate memory game. Gather up some paper plates and draw items on each. These can be shapes, colors, words, or numbers depending on what you want to practice with your child. Make sure you draw two of each item so you have a pair. Spread the plates face down on the lawn and challenge your child to find the matches. To add an extra challenge for older children, play this game with numbers and ask them to add or multiply each of the numbers together. You can even make cleanup a learning exercise by having your child pick up the plates in pairs.

4. PLAY SUMMER READING BINGO

Encourage your child to get reading this summer by creating BINGO reading sheets. First, help your child create a summer reading list. Then, create a BINGO sheet, writing a different reading goal on each of the spots. These goals can be big (finishing a book) or small (read for 15 mins. today). Each time your child meets a goal, cross it off the sheet.



With a Caring Heart by EPU

Parent Support Resources

PARENT TRAPPED by Common Sense

Parenting, school, work, and family life have all changed drastically in the past 100 days and Parent Trapped has been there for parents during the ups and downs. In 10 episodes we've heard :

- Weird and hilarious parenting hacks from Hillary Frank
- Serious how-tos for managing kids' anxiety from Dr. Dave Anderson
- Imaginative ways to foster kids' creativity at home from Julie Andrews
- Top picks on family movies and books for kids from actors, authors, and experts

... and lots more!

The final episode is available now, and if you haven't had a chance to listen to the show (or the many "family screams"), [now is a great time to start](#). The stories, recommendations, and tips in each episode are so helpful as you settle into the "new normal" this summer. You can catch up on Apple Podcasts or wherever you get your [podcasts](#)!

Eagle Parent University Webpage

Parent Support Resources

(click on the box below to access the information)

Stay @ Home Tips

Top Age- Appropriate Books

**Events, Webinars,
TED Talks Recording**

Social- Emotional Support