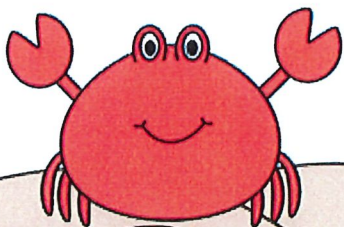


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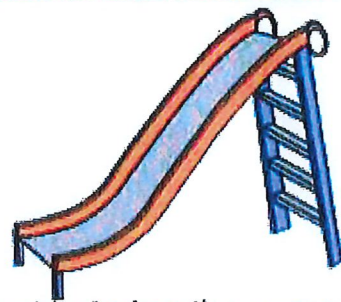
Summer

Practice

Packet



Tips for Preventing the Summer Slide



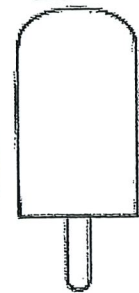
Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer lose up to 2 months of reading performance. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so that by the time a child enters middle school he/she may be 2 1/2 years behind! All children, whether from low, middle or upper income families, may fall victim to the "summer slide" if not provided with summer reading opportunities. So how do we prevent the summer slide-or even accelerate reading growth? Here are a few ideas:

- 1** Visit your local library! Help your child find "right fit" books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child. Open the book to a page with many words. Have your child begin reading the text. Hold up a finger for each word he/she does not know. If you have 4 or 5 fingers up, the text may be too difficult for your child to read independently. Feel free to still check out the book! It just may be a book you want to read with your child.
- 2** Be sure your child reads at least 20 minutes a day. According to research, a child who reads only 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of sixth grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one of your child's top priorities, you may need to set up an incentive program.
- 3** Set a good example. When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book or a newspaper article, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.
- 4** Read to your child. When you read to your child, he/she hears the rhythm of language. Be sure to read with expression! Changing your voice for different characters and increasing your volume during exciting parts are only a few ways to keep children engaged.
- 5** Read with your child -explore different types of reading such as poetry. For our little ones, poetry is a great way to improve phonemic awareness skills as poetry often incorporates rhyme. For our older children, poetry is a means of improving fluency.
- 6** Read for different purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.
- 7** Play games with words. Commercial games such as Apples to Apples improves vocabulary. You can easily turn a game of hopscotch or 4 square into a game that incorporates learning letters or sight words. Be sure to check out the "8 Super Summer Sight Word Activities" on the Make, Take & Teach blog.
- 8** If you have access to an iPad, there are tons of interactive books and apps that address phonics and early reading skills. There are also many websites that offer free reading related games.

Have a happy and healthy summer! Be sure to read, read and read some more! Not only can we prevent the summer slide, we can accelerate reading growth.



SUMMER BiN90



Count to 10 out loud.	Tell me 3 words that rhyme with cat.	Find something that is shaped like a circle.	Count out 20 pennies.	Find 3 things that start with the /s/ sound.
Practice writing your name with a crayon.	Find 3 things that start with the /m/ sound.	Say the alphabet while laying on the floor.	Find something in your house shaped like a square.	Read a story before bed.
Find 3 things that are yellow.	Count out 20 pieces of cereal.	Draw a picture about your favorite vacation.	Tell me a word that rhymes with sun.	Practice writing your name with a marker.
Draw a picture of your favorite animal.	Practice writing your name with a pencil.	Read a story outside.	Make a list of things you would take to the pool.	Find something that starts with the /r/ sound.
Find something that is shaped like a rectangle.	Count to 20 out loud.	Find 3 things that are red.	Tell me 2 words that rhyme with hot.	Draw a picture of your family.

10 FREE LEARNING WEBSITES {FOR kids}

Here's a list of some fun, educational, and safe websites for your child to visit and explore on those hot summer days!

<p>Switcheroo Zoo www.switcheroozoo.com Watch, listen and play games to learn all about amazing animals!</p>	<p>Fun Brain www.funbrain.com Play games while practicing math and reading skills.</p>
<p>Nat Geo for Kids www.kids.nationalgeographic.com Learn all about geography and fascinating animals.</p>	<p>PBS Kids www.pbskids.org Hang out with your favorite characters all while learning!</p>
<p>Into the Book www.reading.ecb.org Go "into the book" to play games that practice reading strategies.</p>	<p>Star Fall www.starfall.com Practice your phonics skills with these read-along stories.</p>
<p>Seussville www.seussville.com Read, play games, and hang out with Dr. Seuss and his friends.</p>	<p>Storyline Online www.storylineonline.net Have some of your favorite stories read to you by movie stars!</p>
<p>ABC YA www.abcy.com Practice math and reading skills all while playing fun games!</p>	<p>Highlights Kids www.highlightskids.com Read, play games, and conduct cool science experiments!</p>