



Ideas for Summer Literacy Practice for Rising 1st Graders

- Read aloud to your child! Try reading lots of different types of books (fiction, non-fiction, fairy tales, rhyming stories etc.) or in lots of different places (under a tree, on a swing etc.)
- Have your child read decodable phonetic books to you. You can find more than 150 different beginning reader books for free online here: <https://halfpintkids.com/online-materials/> and here: <https://justtrightreader.com/pages/decodables-e-library>. Scroll down for books that get longer and more complex. If you prefer paper books, you can also purchase printed copies through the Half Pint Kids website.
- Write and illustrate letters to family or friends. Help your child spell by having them separate each word into sounds and then write the corresponding letters.
- Visit the public library to check out books and participate in fun programs, including the Norwich Summer Reading Challenge. You can find info about events here: <https://www.norwichlibrary.org/>
- Encourage your child to do a phonics workbook. MCS recommends the Primary Phonics and Explode the Code series. Most rising 1st graders should start with Book 1 in both series. Make it fun by putting a sticker on each completed page or letting your child earn a small reward.
- Listen to an audiobook using the Libby app (free through the public library)
- Read and discuss the MCS Community Read book. Look for your copy in your child's backpack during the last week of school.
- Watch the show "Reading Buddies." This show is both entertaining and aligned with research on how children learn to read. You can find it for free here: <https://www.youtube.com/c/readingbuddiestrl>
- Play free reading games online with the Starfall app, Khan Academy kids app, the PBS Kids app/website or Roomrecess.com (Sight Word Safari and Sight Word Smash are good for reviewing high frequency words).