

Dear Parents,

We hope you and your family have a fantastic summer break! To keep your child's learning active and engaging over the next few months, we've compiled a list of local resources and activities:

1. Local Library Programs

Lake County Public Library

Sign up for their annual Summer Reading Challenge to earn prizes, and explore their free weekly storytimes, STEM workshops, and book lists tailored to your child's age group.

2. Academic Practice

Keep math and reading skills sharp with free, personalized daily practice schedules. Just 15-20 minutes a day prevents learning loss!

3. Merrillville Community Activities

Merrillville Parks and Recreation

Keep them physically active! Check out their seasonal youth sports leagues, swimming schedules, and summer day camps.

4. Fun Educational Apps

ABCmouse or Prodigy Math

These are highly engaging, game-based platforms that make practicing math and literacy feel like play.

5. Free Summer Learning Activities

Wide Open School, powered by Common Sense, has resources for preschool through grade 12:

<https://wideopenschool.org/>

A collection of fun education resources from Edutopia:

<https://www.edutopia.org/blog/summer-learning-resources-matt-davis>

Reading Rockets has ideas for teachers to share with families to help them get ready for summer:

<https://www.readingrockets.org/article/get-ready-summer-ideas-teachers-share-families>

Education World has put together a list of 25 activities to keep kids' brains active over the summer:

https://www.educationworld.com/a_curr/profdev073.shtml

Creative summer learning ideas for students PreK – 8th grade from Scholastic:
<https://www.scholastic.com/teachers/articles/teaching-content/creative-summer-learning-ideas/>

The Cade Museum has easy STEAM activities for preschool through ages 10+:
<https://www.cademuseum.org/cade-at-home.html>

iCivics has free civics resources for educators and for families:
<https://www.icivics.org/toolkit>

KERA has an annual Summer Learning Challenge parents can enroll their kids in:
<https://learn.kera.org/summer-learning-challenge/>

Free printable worksheet bundles for summer learning from Edmentum:
<https://blog.edmentum.com/free-printable-worksheet-bundles-summer-learning>

AllConnect has some great summer resources for all students, regardless of internet access:
<https://www.allconnect.com/blog/learning-loss-and-the-digital-divide-summer-resources-for-all-students>

6. Food Resources

Northwest Indiana Food Bank
<https://foodbanknwi.org/>

Merrillville Summer Food Program
<https://www.mvsc.k12.in.us/summerfoodprogram>

Have a wonderful, safe summer!

Warmly,

Dr. Michelle Rushing

McKinney-Vento Liaison