

Dear Parents,

Studies show that millions of children lose ground in reading skills during the summer holidays, also known as the "Summer Slide".

Four Ways to Prevent the "Summer Slide"

Show your children that Reading is important to you!

Many children, especially struggling readers, forget some of what they've learned during the year or slip out of practice during the summer months. Try these strategies to help your reader improve their reading during the summer and beyond:

1. **Help them choose the right books:** Be sure that they are just right – not too hard and not too easy. Select books that match your child's age, interests, and abilities. Ask your child's teacher for help.
2. **Read something every day:** Encourage your child to take advantage of every opportunity to read, e.g. Newspapers, magazines, food recipes, etc. End the day by having your child read to you from the book they are currently reading. Have them rehearse a paragraph, page, or chapter before reading to you. Rereading will help them be more fluent – able to read at an appropriate speed, correctly, and with nice expression.
3. **Keep reading aloud:** Reading aloud benefits all children and teens, especially those who struggle. One benefit is that you can read books your child can't, so they will build listening comprehension skills with grade-level and above books. This will increase their knowledge and expand their experience with text, so that they will do better when they read on their own. If you are not an English speaking parent, a good alternative is to help your child use Audio books.
4. **Read what your children reads at all ages:** this will enable you to really connect with your child, show interest and be able to answer questions and instigate discussion.

Studies show that 92% of children say they enjoy reading for FUN.

Let's make a special effort this summer, and...

Spark a Passion for Reading!



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