



# WHY IS IT IMPORTANT TO READ OVER THE SUMMER?



Research shows that **students can maintain or improve reading skills** when they are out of school for the summer.

Access to books over the summer increases reading opportunities and enjoyment of books, and **helps students be ready for next school year.**

Students who read **at least five books** during the summer can maintain important literacy skills.

## 5 TIPS FOR MAKING READING PART OF THE FUN!

### Lead by example.

Make reading a part of your own summer routine. One of the biggest factors that determine if a student will be a lifelong reader is seeing someone in their family set that example. Keep lots of reading material around the house and set aside 10-15 minutes a day for your child to read or you to read to them.

### Make a “Summer Fun Journal”.

Combine your children’s favorite summer activities with writing prompts. Have children pick out or craft a summer fun journal, and when you take them to their favorite restaurant, or on a trip to Grandma’s, they can write a short entry in their journal afterwards.

### Read everything, everywhere.

Have your child read billboards, signs, and pamphlets. If you go on a trip to the park or pool, have children be responsible for reading park and pool signs, rules, and anything else that they see!

### Take your child on regular trips to the library.

Taking a trip to the library is a fun reading centered activity that children love. Make regular visits to the library and let children spend as much or as little time as they want picking out books to take home.

### When reading, ask your child lots of questions.

Reading lots of different books, silently or aloud with someone else, helps children build phonics skills and read fluently. And, talking about books, answering questions, and re-telling stories helps children develop their ability to understand language.





# HOW CAN YOU HELP YOUR STUDENT AT HOME?

## BEFORE READING



- Read the title, author, and illustrator.
- Why did you choose this book to read?
- Flip through the pictures and make observations about what you notice and make predictions about what you think the book will be about.
- Set a purpose for reading. For example: Say, "Let's read to find out more about \_\_\_\_."



## DURING READING

- Look for words that start with familiar letters. For example, if your child knows the letter 'c' have them find at least 3-4 words in the book that start with 'c'.
- Who are the main characters?
- What is the setting of the story?
- Describe the illustration or picture.
- What happened on this page?
- If it is a non-fiction book: What have you learned on this page? So far?



## AFTER READING



- Discuss what happened in the beginning, middle, and end of the book.
- What was your favorite part of the story? Why?
- If it is a non-fiction book: What important information did you learn about the topic?