

# TIPS FOR PARENTS: READ this Summer

Reading is one of the most important things children can do in summer to keep their skills sharp for the next school year. Adults can help by making sure children have access to age-appropriate books and by reading along with them. Here are some ideas from the National Summer Learning Association and the Campaign for Grade-Level Reading:



## REACH *for a Book that will Spark Your Child's Imagination*

Summer reading can take place anywhere—under a tree in the park, at the kitchen table or while visiting family and friends. Taking the reading adventure beyond the classroom is a great way to explore new worlds, embark on new adventures, and find new friends!



## ENRICH *Your Child's Reading Experience*

Become a reading role model. When you spend time reading books, magazines, the newspaper, or even directions for how to use an appliance, you are showing your child that reading is both fun and useful.

Set a reading routine. Depending on your family's schedule, reading time might be in the morning, afternoon, or before bed. Whatever time you choose, stick to it, but also remember that flexibility around differing schedules and special events is okay.

Let children make their own reading choices. Let kids choose age-appropriate books they want to read. Summer is a great time to encourage children to read about new topics beyond what they've learned during the school year, to explore new interests, or to delve into old favorites.

Read aloud to your children and have them read to you. Even before a child can talk, reading aloud helps them develop language and pre-literacy skills. Make sure your caregivers are also reading with your children.



Visit [summerlearning.org/GLR](http://summerlearning.org/GLR) or email [glrpartnership@summerlearning.org](mailto:glrpartnership@summerlearning.org) for more information.

## ACHIEVE *a Rewarding Family Experience*

Read as a family. It's easy and fun to have a family reading night. Encourage everyone to bring a favorite book and read the passages they like best aloud. Help younger readers and model how much fun it is to read.

Set goals, reward effort. Reward reading with more reading. Stop by the library for the next book in your child's favorite series, or to discover new ones. Ask librarians for books about children's hobbies or interests. Encourage kids to branch out and learn about new topics. Share your favorite books from childhood and make new memories together.

Read the book. Watch the movie. Kids love to compare and contrast a movie to a favorite book. Discuss the differences, talk about why the filmmakers chose to make changes, and ask which version they prefer and why.



## DISCOVER *the Joy of Reading*

Visit the library. When kids have their own library card and use it regularly, they quickly see that reading plays an important role in their family and in their lives. While you're at the library, get books for adults and children alike so everyone can get involved in the reading fun. Many libraries have summer reading programs for both adults and kids, with incentives for reading and fun activities.

Take books along on outings. Pack books in your bag to take with you. Reading can happen anywhere. You and your children can enjoy books together anywhere you go this summer.

### Online Reading Resources for Encouraging Reading at Home:

- Book Adventure – [www.bookadventure.com](http://www.bookadventure.com)
- Story Maker – <http://pbskids.org/apps/martha-speaks-story-maker.html>
- Word Spinner – <http://pbskids.org/mobile/martha-speaks-word-spinner.html>
- Wordsuckeruppennator – <http://pbskids.org/electriccompany/pranksterplanet/part1>
- Prankster Planet – <http://pbskids.org/electriccompany/pranksterplanet>
- Reading Is Fundamental – <http://www.rif.org/books-activities/tips-resources/>



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