What is Summer Slide

You may have heard the term summer slide from your child’s teacher but may not be sure what it means. Summer Slide is what happens when the skills the students learn during the school year are lost or forgotten over the summer. When children don’t practice their reading skills during the summer months, they can fall behind by the time school starts again. The achievement gains they made during the previous year seem to vanish over the summer. Fortunately there are a lot of libraries that offer well-established summer reading programs that encourages children to read over the summer.

Over the summer months, many children, especially struggling readers, tend to forget some of what they have learned. As a parent, it is your responsibility to make sure you continue reinforcing the skills your child has learned over the year.

Ask your child’s teacher for books to take home and read with your child. You can also ask the teacher for the list of books your child read during the year or to recommend books for your child to read over summer break to help your child prepare for the following academic year.

Most importantly, encourage your child to read over the summer and set an example for your child by reading too. You want to make sure your child retains the skills learned over the previous school year. The only way to get better at reading to read.

5 TIPS TO PREVENT SUMMER SLIDE

1. **Read everyday** - Encourage your child to read everyday. Take advantage of every opportunity to read. Have your child read the newspaper to you in the morning, have your child read magazines, tv guides, recipes, etc. Have your child read aloud a paragraph or a chapter of the book he is reading. Reading daily will help your child be more fluent.

2. **Read to your child** - Reading aloud benefits all children especially those who struggle. If you read aloud to your child, she/he will build listening comprehension skills. This will increase your child’s knowledge with text, improving his/her independent reading ability.

3. **Visit the library** - Make time to visit the library at least once a week. Most libraries usually run reading programs that are usually inexpensive or free.

4. **Make reading fun** - Reading can be fun for some and frustrating for others. What you want to do is make reading fun for your child. Allow your child to pick his/her own book; let your child read in a silly voice and take turns; use audiobooks. If your child really struggles, create a fun reading area and make reading time an adventure. Don’t forget about reading books on an iPad or Kindle.

5. **Choose the right books** - Your child is going to want to read all sort of books which is great. However, make sure your child is reading the “just right” book. If the book is too easy your child is going to get bored, if the book is too hard, your child is going to get frustrated and give up. Ask your child’s teacher or a librarian for help if you are not sure what your child’s reading level is.
“There is no such thing as a child who hates to read; there are only children who have not found the right book”.

- Frank Serafini-

A SUMMER BLESSING

May you walk with God
This summer
In whatever you do
Wherever you go.

Walking with God means...
Walking with honesty
And with courage,
Walking with love
And respect.
And concern for the feelings of others.

May you talk to God
This summer
And every day and
In every situation.

Talking with God means...
Praying words of praise
For the beauty of creation
Saying prayers of thanks
For friends and good times.

Asking God’s help
In all your decisions
Expressing sorrow
When you have failed.

May you talk with God
Every day.

Amen.

- Author unknown

LIST OF BOOKS TO READ OVER THE SUMMER

If you are not sure about what type of books you child should read over the summer your librarian can help if not here are some links to different organizations and the “must read” summer book lists for 2017.

Reading Rockets Summer Reading Guide 2017
http://www.readingrockets.org/books/summer/2017

Association for Library Service to Children
http://www.ala.org/alsc/publications-resources/book-lists/2017-summer-reading-list

Scholastic 2017 Summer Reading Book List

MATH

All About Multiplication
Games, activities, and resources to help kids learn the multiplication facts. Make teaching the times tables fun at multiplication.com

READING

Puppet Pals Create your own unique shows with animation and audio in real time!

The Mad Libs app is just how you remember the classic fill-in-the-noun/verb/adverb game, but with a twist! Fill-in-the-blank sections are now interactive, and hints are offered to educate and entertain. Great for parts of speech practice, https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/mad-libs

PHONICS GENIUS- This app covers tons of phonics patterns (over 200)!. It’s organized by pattern. Once you select a phonics pattern it shows a word that has that pattern highlighted and reads the word to you. When you click on the word it goes to the next word. There is also an option for students to record themselves reading the word. You can even mark words as "favorites" if you want students to review multiple patterns. https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/