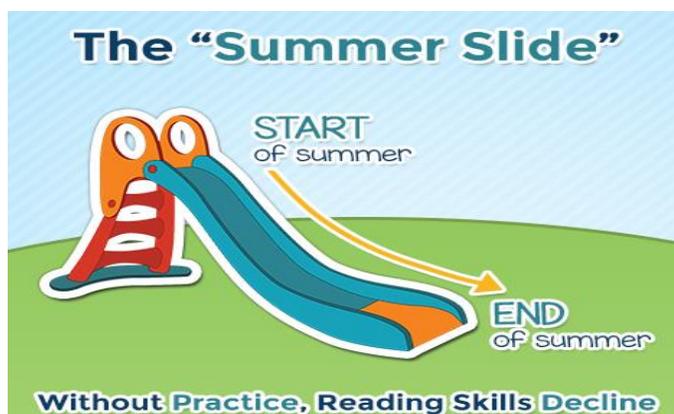


10 Ways to Help Prevent the Summer Slide



How do you get kids to read over the summer?

With so many choices of things to do in the summer months away from school, it can be a challenge for many parents to get their child to pick up a book and read. Research shows that without reading on a regular basis, (i.e. summer), reading skills decline. By bringing reading activities into each day of summer break, you can encourage your child to read more and have fun doing it.

Here are ten ways to encourage your child to read more over the summer.

1. Find a topic your child enjoys.

Summer is the perfect time for your child to read something he or she enjoys, which makes reading less of a chore and more of a fun activity. Help your child find books that are related to an interest he or she has—whether it's sports, animals, mystery, or something else.

2. Incorporate reading into everyday activities.

Reading is all around us, and daily routines provide great reading opportunities. When you're in the kitchen cooking, have your child read the recipe while you work. Plan a day trip and ask your child to read you the directions. Take advantage of the opportunities that pop up during your child's day, no matter how small.

3. Listen to audiobooks.

For children who are auditory learners, audiobooks are an excellent alternative to reading and can help them improve their comprehension skills. If your child prefers audiobooks, still encourage him or her to sit down with a book (even a short one) at least a couple times a week.



4. Get a library card.

Take a trip to the local library and sign your child up for a library card. Libraries have a huge selection of books that your child can browse to find one that he or she likes. And as an added bonus, your child can keep coming back for a new book as many times as he or she wants.

5. Plan a trip to the bookstore.

Visit a bookstore with your child and let him or her pick out a book as a special treat. Letting your child choose a book he or she wants will get him or her excited to get home and start reading his or her new book.



6. Read aloud.

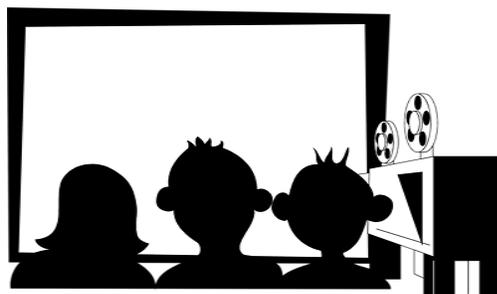
Make time to sit with your child to read aloud together. Each day, take a few minutes to read part of a book, or find a story in the newspaper to read together. For older students, let them read on their own and ask them tell you about their favorite part or what has happened in the book.

7. Start a book club.

Once you know what kinds of books your child is interested in, help him or her create a reading list. Set aside a regular time to sit down together (like once a week) to talk about what is happening in the book. Ask things like what your child thinks will happen next and his or her favorite parts.

8. Read books before you watch the movie.

Find a book that has been made into a movie your child would be interested in watching, and read the book first. After your child has read the book, watch the movie and talk about how they are different, what your child liked, and what he or she didn't like.



9. Start a new book series.

Help your child find a book series he or she will enjoy. Having multiple books that continue a story is a great way to keep your child interested in reading over the summer. You also won't have to worry about what to read next. Once your child becomes involved with the story and characters, he or she will be excited to read the next book in the series.

10. Read a graphic novel or comics.

If your child is more of a visual student, try reading graphic novels or comics. These are much more visual, but still provide a good reading opportunity for children. Comics are a great way to make reading fun for children, so they'll be building their reading skills without even knowing it.



THE IMPACT OF SUMMER READING LOSS

*What's so important about
summer reading?*



*Kids who read **4+** books over the summer do better on comprehension tests than kids who read 1 or no books*



***96%** of parents agree that reading a book over the summer helps kids during the school year*



***34%** of parents say they have to work at encouraging their child to read over the summer*



***1 - 3 months** of reading skills can be lost by children over the summer*



***3 years** of reading skills can be lost by students by the end of 5th grade*