Reading? Over the summer? How?



In order for your children to maintain their reading skills, it is essential that they read over the summer months. Unfortunately, this doesn't always prove to be such an easy task. You may have many fun-filled summer plans taking up lots of your free time, or you may have a very reluctant reader. For many of you, summer reading may feel like more of a chore than an enjoyable activity. You are not alone! Here are some tips that can help you make reading a more fun and engaging part of your family's summer routine:

1. Combine activities with books

Summer leaves lots of time for kids to enjoy fun activities, such as going to the park, seeing a movie, or going to the beach. This is a perfect opportunity to bring in reading. For example, if you are visiting the



zoo, do some research about an interesting animal before or after your visit. You could also read a book about being a zoo keeper, or how to care for animals. Linking an activity to books provides students with a purpose for reading and can also really enrich your time together.

2. Choice, Choice, Choice!

Summer is a time when children can read what, when, and how they please. This is the time when we get to relax the rules. They don't have to read a prescribed number of minutes or pages in the summer like they may have to for requirements during the school year. Instead, help to make sure they pick up books for fun and help them find ways to choose to read on their own. It is okay to read "easy" over the summer. Not every book needs to be at or above your child's reading level. Also, embrace alternative book formats. You might want to mix things up for your child by allowing him/her to read online or on an E-reader (iPad or other tablets), listen to audio books, or explore magazines.

3. Read Aloud

The summer months leave extra time for fun read-alouds with children, no matter what their age. This is a great time to introduce your children to new books that they may not be able to or interested in reading on their own. Have fun with it. Make your voice match the characters' or read together under a blanket with a flashlight. You can also explore sites online in which your children can listen to stories. StorylineOnline http://www.storylineonline.net/ is one great option and it is free!



4. Start A Series

Summer is a great time to get into a new book series. It helps take the pressure off having to find all sorts of new reading material and is great for keeping reluctant readers going. Some of my favorite book series are:

| Ricky Riccetts's Mighty Robot | by Day Rilkoy | Critter Club | by Callie Rarkley |

Ricky Ricotta's Mighty Robot – by, Dav Pilkey Mercy Watson – by Kate DiCamillo Mr. Putter & Tabby – by Cynthia Rylant Babymouse – by Jennifer & Matthew Holm Reddy Freddy – by Abby Klein Lulu – by Judith Viorst

Bink & Gollie by Kate Dicamillo

Critter Club – by Callie Barkley Ivy & Bean – by Annie Barrows The Lemonade War – by Jaqueline Davies

The Lemonade War – by Jaqueline Davies Clementine – by Sara Pennypacker Silver Jajuar Series – by Kate Messner The Quirks - by Erin Soderberg Swindle – by Gordon Korman

5. Take Books With You

Make sure to always pack up books for wherever you go for your kids AND for yourself. Let your children see you reading during summer too whether it's at the beach, waiting for a sporting event, or at home. Talk with your child about your reading life and show them ways to fit reading in to an already busy schedule.

6. Visit the Public Library, School Library, or Northview Mobile Library. Better yet, visit all 3!!!

- * Your child is already signed up for the summer reading program "Celebrate Heroes" at the Plainfield Township Library. Make sure to visit the library often to not only check out new books, but also to attend one of their fun summer reading events.
- * **New this summer!** We will be having *Summer Activities in the Library* (S.A.I.L) at each of our elementary schools. Come with your children to experience some summer reading fun, as well as trade your child's *Super Summer Success* books. Children from all 3 buildings are welcome at any of the dates below:

Thursday, June 11, 6-7:30 West Oakview Elementary Hosted by Mrs. Frommeyer

Thursday, July 9, 6-7:30 East Oakview Elementary Hosted by Mr. Stroh

Thursday, August 6, 6-7:30 North Oakview Elementary Hosted by Mrs. Davies

* Visit the Northview Mobile Library to exchange or check out Super Summer Success Books. The Mobile Library dates/times are:

Thursday, June 25
Thursday, July 23
Wednesday, August 12
Mobile Library Arrival Times/Locations
4:30 p.m. – East Oakview Daycare
5:00 p.m. – Northview Park Pool
5:30 p.m. – The Valley Apartments (pool)
6:00 p.m. – Rolling Pines Apartments (pool)
6:30 p.m. – Wood Brook Cathedral
7:00 p.m. – Autumn Ridge Apartments (pool)

7. Start A Book Club

Get together with a few other families and start a summer book club. Reading the same books along with your children allows for some great discussion. Visit this site for some ideas about how to start your own book club.

http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/reading-language/reading-tips/book-clubs-for-kids/

8. Make Summer Reading Plans/Goals

Your child has created a summer reading plan in library with Mrs. Davies. Review this plan with your child and talk about ways that he/she can make this plan a reality. Set reasonable goals with your child according to the types of books that he/she is reading and other activities that your child may be involved in. Make your child's progress towards his/her goal visible. Here are a few fun ways to do this:

- * Make a Summer Reading Necklace add a bead for each book or section of book read.
- * Make a Summer Reading Bookworm add paper circles with book titles for the body of the worm upon the completion of each book.
- * Make a Book Scrapbook have your child create scrapbook pages for the books that he/she reads to record his/her summer reading adventures. Purchase a special scrapbook, paper, and some fun scrapbooking supplies, then let your child's creativity take hold!

9. Have Fun!!!

* Make a summer reading "Pick A Spot" jar. Think of places around your house or outside that would make

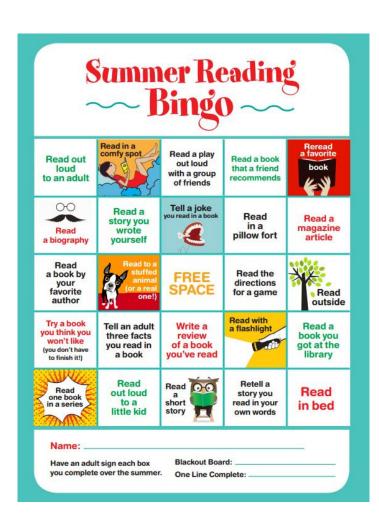
fun reading spots. Put these ideas on popsicle sticks and place them in a jar. Each day, grab a stick and discover a new spot to read!

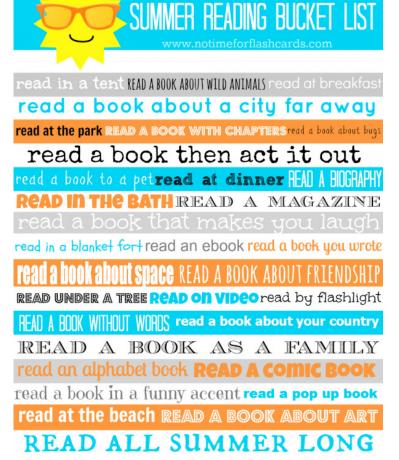
- * Make a summer reading tent. Fill it with blankets, pillows, and some great books of course!
- * Create a Summer Reading Bucket List. (see below)
- * Play Summer Reading Bingo (see below)

10. Connect!

Reading can be social too! Sometimes the best part about reading is sharing it with others. Be sure to stop by the North Oakview Library website (northoakviewlibrary.weebly.com) to connect with others by sharing what you have been reading and see what others might recommend. I would also love to hear about your summer reading life! Please fee free to have your child e-mail me to share the books that they are reading. I will make sure to write back!







Happy Summer Reading!
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