

BEAT THE SUMMER SLIDE



READERS
IN ERIE COUNTY



United Way of Erie County

#LearnWhereYouLive

What is the "summer slide"?

Summer Slide is the loss of learning that a child experiences during the summer months when school is not in session. Students who consistently experience learning loss each summer are an average of two years behind their peers by the end of grade 6.

How to combat summer slide?

Learning doesn't end with the school year! Every parent, guardian, and caregiver can keep their child's body and brain active and learning during the summer season – and doing so can be easy, free, and fun! Below you will find some ideas on how to #LearnWhereYouLive during the summer months.



Read at home everyday.

Encouraging your child to read during the summer is vital to combatting Summer Slide. Set aside 20 minutes a day to encourage your child to read on their own or together. Find the nearest Little Free Library or visit the public library and borrow a book or two!

Use counting skills in daily activities.

Daily activities can enrich your child's math and science skills! Baking or cooking in the kitchen? Let your child read the ingredients and count the minutes for cooking or mixing time. Turn a grocery trip into a math lesson by letting your child count what is put into your cart.

Look for art in your neighborhood.

Art activities can encompass all domains of learning and teach children about their community, history, culture, and passion. Go on an art walk with your child – ask about the colors and shapes they see. Is there any art in the yards or the buildings you pass?

Keep a summer journal.

Have your child keep a journal this summer to write and draw about all they are learning and experiencing. Your child could write about the books they enjoy, their favorite summer events or activities, and new friends they've made.

Be active outdoors.

Learning about nature and the environment by being outside fosters scientific literacy and leads to better physical and mental health. Children learn about the world around them through play. Take your child on a nature scavenger hunt at a local park or visit the nearest community garden together.

Get creative.

Children learn best through purposeful play. Let your child's imagination soar by encouraging creativity with everyday household items: turn cardboard tubes into rockets, or old socks into hand puppets. Ask your child to draw a story book or map out your neighborhood.