



# 2018 Summer Reading Ideas

As a parent, you play a critical role in your child's education during the summer. Without your help, kids are more likely to forget what they learned last year. A [study from Johns Hopkins University](#) estimates that summer loss for all students equals about a month of academic learning. Most likely, children with learning disabilities such as dyslexia, need even more reinforcement. Help them remember what they learned in school so they can start next year caught up or ahead of the other students in their class. Bring out their natural love of learning by encouraging them to read for pleasure without the pressure they experience in the classroom.

**Here are some tips to help your child enjoy reading while remembering what they learned in school:**

- Provide material that motivates them to read, even if they find it hard to do, such as comic books, directions for interesting projects, and mystery stories.
- Have them read information on possible activities as you plan your summer vacation, letting them decide what they want to read from it.
- Support them as they read like reading their book aloud to them, helping them decode, and making it easy for them to understand the meaning. If a question is repeatedly asked, approach it with a willingness to answer, showing them that reading is a way to find out what they need to know, or even to entertain themselves.
- Give them easy reading. Summer is supposed to be relaxed. Let them succeed and get absorbed in the book.
- When you read with them, make it your goal to enjoy the book together. You don't have to make them read perfectly! Avoid too much correction as the teacher will help them improve their skills next year.
- Let younger children "pretend" to read. Read the story aloud together. Let them follow your voice. Have them look at the words as you point to them, even if they aren't actually reading. When they say the wrong word, say the word correctly and cheerfully while pointing to the word.
- Read aloud to them as you do daily chores, sightsee, or sit on the beach. Read an instruction manual with them as you try to fix something or interpretative material while touring places like a museum. If you see the slightest sign they want to read aloud to you, let them!
- Model and teach persistence. When you are working on something that is hard, model the discipline and patience that you want them to show while learning to read. Teach them explicitly the value of working hard to do something challenging. Tell them inspirational stories about famous people, family members and friends who have overcome obstacles.
- Sign your child up for the library reading program. Great books, activities, movies await you at the library.

**Have Fun and Enjoy the Summer!!**

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