



Dear Parent,

Summer can be a season full of good times and fun memories, but did you know that kids may experience learning losses when they don't read during the summer? There's actually a name for it: the summer slide (and that isn't the one at the park).

So what can you do as a parent to help STOP the summer slide?

Here's one simple solution! Studies show that children who **read four or more books** over the summer do better on reading tests in the fall than those who read only one or no books over the summer.

Motivating your kids to read doesn't have to be costly, and can even be free if you visit your local library. Here's how you can help your kids keep their reading skills sharp:

- Let your kids **choose the books** *they* want to read.
- Give kids **access** to a wide variety of [age-appropriate books](#).
- Introduce your kids to a book **series** and one turns into four...or more.
- Invite them to go online and join the **Scholastic Summer Challenge!**

The Scholastic Summer Challenge is a FREE summer-long literacy program designed to motivate all children to read four or more books. The web-based campaign helps kids find great books to read and provides parents with age-appropriate book lists and plenty of helpful hints for stopping the summer slide.

This summer kids can join the [Scholastic Summer Challenge](#), a free web site designed to motivate all children to read four or more books. Kids sign up to be part of a team and read, earn points, play games, chat with other readers, and even make a difference by helping children in need through Save the Children's U.S. programs. Parents can find age-appropriate book lists, videos and plenty of tips from reading experts about stopping the summer slide.

Go to www.scholastic.com/summer to learn more, and get your child to read and join the Scholastic Summer Challenge! For parent tips from the National Center for Summer Learning click for [English](#) or [Spanish](#), or go to www.summerlearning.org for more information about summer learning, including research and summer programs.

Have a great summer, and happy reading!

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Francie Alexander".

Francie Alexander
Chief Academic Officer
Scholastic Inc.

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Ron Fairchild".

Ron Fairchild
Executive Director
National Center for Summer Learning