



Dear Parents:

There are many things you can do for and with your child this summer that will help him or her retain what they have learned during this school year. Here are a few ideas:

- Make regular visits to the public library and encourage your child to read daily.
- Visit local museums and cultural centers. Encourage an on-going discussion of what was seen and what your child learned from the visit.
- See that your child gets regular physical exercise. Sign them up for swimming lessons, karate lessons, dance lessons or encourage them to join a team sport.
- Limit your child to a minimum amount of television viewing. Always make sure that children only watch programs that are appropriate for their age and maturity level.
- Arrange several opportunities when you can help your child review math facts and spelling words. You might want to purchase or make simple flash cards. If you make the activity fun, it will be an enjoyable time for both you and your child.
- Encourage your child to take up a hobby. You might suggest and provide the materials for an art activity or a cooking project. A child that likes to sing may enjoy joining a junior choir or children's drama group. You might want to encourage your child to start a collection such as rocks, insects, shells, pressed flowers, marbles, etc.
- Provide a new notebook or blank book that your child can use as a daily journal. Suggest a specific time each day in which he or she can write about the day's events or personal feelings. Encourage good penmanship, spelling and punctuation.
- Read to your child every day. Provide a time before bed to read a story together or you may want to read a short, funny story, poem or news article at the dinner table. The *Reader's Digest Magazine* is an excellent source of short, concise and often humorous stories that family members can read to each other.
- Spend some quiet time each day talking to your child about the things that are important to him or her. Make sure that you take time for hugs and kisses and to affirm your child of your love and admiration for their special qualities.