

Keep Kids Reading All Year Long!

Prep your child to rest, recharge, and *read* over summer vacation! When school's out, continue the learning at home with these top tips.

THE
SUMMER
SLIDE

If kids don't read and write over the summer, they can lose some of their reading abilities.



1 Let them choose their own books. It's fine if your child goes for an "easy" book or wants to reread a favorite.

2 Set up a reading nook. Use comfy pillows and a few blankets to create a special kids' space that's just for reading.

3 Be a reading role model. Kids are more likely to view reading as a fun activity when they see you reading. Put down your phone and pick up a book!

4 Start a family book club. Choose a chapter book that you each read on your own (or read out loud together)—then "meet" as a family to discuss it!

5 Go on a time-travel adventure. The American Girl series features characters from different time periods—as far back as the 1700s. Kids may even be interested in reading fiction and nonfiction focused on the same era.

6 Create a family newspaper. The character Kit Kittredge from the American Girl series reports on events happening in her family's home (and even writes an editorial for the local paper). Encourage kids to look for newsworthy stories throughout their summer vacation.

7 Write letters to faraway family members. Like Josefina's family in the American Girl series, kids can write letters to a relative they don't see often. Help children mail letters to share news, suggest visits, and stay in touch.

8 Keep an adventure journal. Give your child a spiral notebook and encourage them to write about exciting summer projects, describe fun family outings, or plan a dream trip to a distant place.