



Why Summer Reading Programs Are Important

Do you have a summer reading plan for your family?

Below are twelve key reasons why a summer reading program should be an essential part of every child's summer programs, activities and enjoyment.

1. Reading over the summer prevents "summer reading loss."
2. Reading 5 books or more over the summer can have a significant impact for elementary school readers.
3. Summer reading programs make adjustments for individual children who are at different reading levels.
4. Summer library programs are not located in school buildings, which may help reduce the negative perception about summer learning.
5. Summer reading programs encourage readers to use alternate formats such as magazines, recorded books and graphic novels.
6. Participants often return to summer library programs in successive years which helps build reading into their summer routine.
7. It is important that students read things that are important to them socially-- items related to movies and books that are popular with their friends--which most library programs encourage.
8. Free voluntary reading is important to helping students become better readers, writers and spellers.
9. Students who read recreationally out-performed those who don't. Students read more when they choose their own materials based on their own interests.
10. Summer library programs address child safety issues by providing constructive, supervised and free activities.
11. Summer library programs provide quality, productive and affordable learning opportunities, regardless of income.
12. Library programs can meet the personal and social needs of youth.