

Taming the Summer Sloth



Mary Kay McMillin Early Childhood Center
Annie Corley-Hand, Principal

LAZY, HAZY SUMMER DAYS...



- All students experience learning losses when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer.
- On average, students lose approximately 2.6 months of grade level equivalency during the summer months.
- The biggest losses occur in the areas of spelling and computational math (multiplication, addition, etc.)

IMPORTANT FACTS...



- Research shows that teachers typically spend between 4 to 6 weeks re-teaching material that students have forgotten.
- Only about 10% of students nationwide participate in summer school or attends school with non-traditional calendars.
- 56% of students want to be involved in a summer program that “helps kids keep up with schoolwork or prepare for the next grade.”

BUILDING A “SUMMER BRIDGE”

- Look for natural opportunities in your daily life to help children grow as learners.
- The summer months are an excellent time to fill in learning gaps or zoom ahead.
- The AFT recommends spending a little time each day on reading, writing, and math.
- Talk to your child’s teacher & ask about skills your child would benefit from practicing.

GETTING UP TO SPEED...



- Reading Aloud
- Provide children with a variety of texts so begin to read fluency, that is, they can identify words swiftly so that what is read is understood and reading itself is enjoyable.
- Evidence shows that viewers can improve their reading skills & build fluency by watching closed captioned television programs.
- Watch movies based on books.



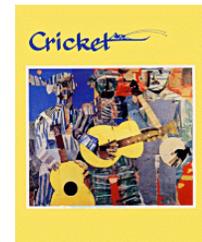
ARE WE THERE YET?

- Whether driving to Shop-Rite or trekking across the country, there's no better opportunity to expand your child's language & vocabulary skills than while she's a captive learner.
 - *Play 20 Questions
 - *Audiobooks
 - *Mad Libs
 - *Give your child a road map and ask her to direct you to your destination.

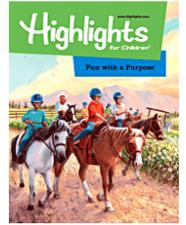
A magazine subscription can spark interest & motivate reading...



- *LADYBUG* opens the door to reading for children. Delightful to read, each issue is filled with charming characters, games, songs, poems, and stories.
- *CLICK* opens up a universe of wonder by introducing kids to the world that's all around them. *CLICK* is about the sciences, nature and the environment.
- *CRICKET* is filled with stories, poems, puzzles, recipes, and science and nature articles— all designed to stimulate the imagination and help young people discover and explore the world around them.



- *Highlights for Children* delivers puzzles, science projects, and riddles that challenge young minds, while characters in regular features like
- Hidden Pictures & Goofus and Gallant keep children (and adults) coming back.

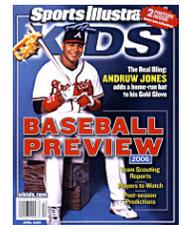


- *Nickelodeon* is the award-winning entertainment and humor magazine is packed with fascinating facts, celebrity interviews, comics, pull-outs, puzzles, activities, and the inside scoop on Nick TV.



- *National Geographic Kids* is an award winning magazine that features great stories on animals, science, technology, & accomplishments of kids around the world.

Sports Illustrated for Kids interviews sports heroes, contains hilarious comics, & awesome action photos.



- *Ranger Rick* is packed with amazing facts, photos, outdoor adventures and discoveries that help kids sharpen reading skills and develop a deeper appreciation for our natural world. A Parent's Choice Gold Award recipient.

YOU'VE GOT MAIL...



Writing is a complex process that requires practice. To make writing meaningful, give your child legitimate reasons to write.

- Keep in touch with a friend away at camp or write letters to relatives even if their just across town.
- Send a postcard from a trip.
- Engage in an interactive writing journal.



WHERE IN THE WORLD IS...?

- Help your child develop a sense of distance and place using maps and globes to learn about the world around them.



- Plan a “virtual vacation” by doing some online research. Learn about things to see and do, budget for meals, lodging and activities.

CRAZY ABOUT COMPUTERS...

www.kidscoop.com

Parent, teacher and child resource. How to help your child build skills, reading challenges etc.. A link to kid's games and activities. Ideas for using the newspaper to build skill and enhance learning.

www.kidsreads.com

What's new in paperback, author information, reviews by kids, trivia games

gigglepoetry.com

100s of poems and silly songs to read and rate

nationalgeographic.com/kids

Play cool games, watch amazing animal videos, find the best jokes and fun facts

www.rif.org

Reading is Fundamental, a nonprofit children's literacy program

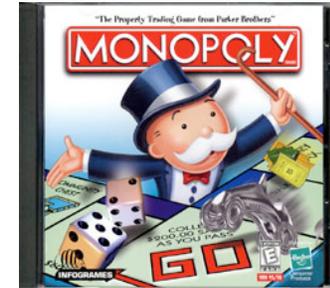
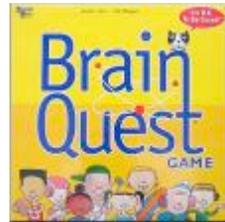
www.enchantedlearning.com

WORD PLAY: www.anagramsite.com www.puzzlemaker.com,
www.palindrome.com

...AND APPS

- **Everyday Mathematics®**
By McGraw–Hill School Education Group
- **Teach Me: Kindergarten**
- **SentenceBuilder™** By Mobile Education Tools
Designed to help elementary aged children learn how to build grammatically correct sentences
- **Math Ninja** By Razeware LLC
Use your math skills to defend your treehouse against a hungry tomato and his robotic army in this fun action packed game!

FAMILY BOARD GAMES



Children who play board games learn how to take turns, make decisions, learn sportsmanship, while developing important academic skills.



- Keep it simple, fun & stimulating
- * Let kids pick out the books to read
& topics to explore
- * Summer is also a time for relaxing, taking time off
...and just being a kid
- * Balance fun and learning

SCORE
ONE
FOR



THE SLOTHS!

REFERENCES

Center for Summer Learning, Johns Hopkins University. Retrieved May 16, 2006 from: <http://www.jhu.edu/teachbaltimore/>.

Fairchild, R. & Boulay, M. (2002). "What if summer learning loss were an education policy priority?" Retrieved May 16, 2006 from [tp//www.jhu.edu/teachbaltimore/](http://www.jhu.edu/teachbaltimore/).

Fountas, I. & Pinnell, G.S. (1996). "Guided Reading: Good First Teaching for All Children. Portsmouth, NH: Heinemann.

McGill-Franzen, A. & Allington, R. "Lost summers." *Classroom Leadership* 4 (August 2001). Retrieved May 16, 2006 from http://www.ascd.org/publications/class_lead/200108/mcgillfranz_2.html.

Peters, R. (2005). *Laying Down the Law: The 25 Laws of Parenting to Keep Your Kids on Track, Out of Trouble, and (Pretty Much Under Control.* New York: Rodale.

Riley, R. (1996). *Summer home learning recipes for parents and children grades K-3.* Retrieved May 3, 2006 from: <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/Recipes>.

Riley, R. (1996). *Summer home learning recipes for parents and children grades 4-6.* Retrieved May 3, 2006 from: <http://www.ed.gov/pubs/Recipes>.

