



Partners in Learning



10 Tips To Avoid the “Summer Slide”

Summer break is around the corner. Teachers and students alike will be pouring out of schools soon ready to relax, have fun, and recuperate from this past year. As parents, you are likely thinking about the pool and waterpark, much-anticipated family vacations, and a more relaxed schedule. However, you might not be thinking about how the summer months affect your child’s learning. Often referred to as “summer slide”, there is a real danger of loss of educational ground during the summer months. Consider the following suggestions to avoid that “summer slide.”

1. **Read every day.** Read non-fiction, fiction, eBooks, poetry, newspapers, and read out loud. Try for 20 minutes daily.
2. **Learn a new word each week.** Hang it on the fridge and see who can use it the most times throughout the week.
3. **Listen to audiobooks** during summer road trips.
4. **Take a field trip.** Head out to a museum, zoo or local park with walking trails. Keep a journal about your travels. Use Google Maps to help investigate journey distances and travel times.
5. **Cook with your children.** This is an excellent way to integrate math, reading and following directions. Let your child design the weekly menu with you, too. Help your child put together their favourite recipes in a personal cookbook.
6. **Plant a garden.** Your child will gain responsibility and pride as they watch their plants grow.
7. **Play non-electric board games like Monopoly and Chess** that encourage math and reasoning, and play them together as a family.
8. **Play cards.** Card games such as Crib are excellent for developing math skills. Math skills tend to decline more than reading skills as children are more likely to carry out summer tasks linked to reading.
9. **Watch a Youtube video.** Take a break from dancing cat videos to watch videos related to math, science or social studies. You can find several fun science activities online that you might try as well.
10. **Play live online math games.** Children can practice some of their math skills with various fun math websites such as “Math Playground”.



Have a wonderful summer learning together!