



Summer Reading Tips for Parents of Babies, Toddlers and Young Children

Summer offers many unique opportunities to weave literacy into everyday activities with your child. Beach trips, swimming in a pool or family barbecues provide ideal opportunities for conversation, book reading and looking at letters—skills that will help your child become a reader and writer later in life. Try some of these tips for making your young child's summer full of literacy fun.

- Be a reader yourself. When you read newspapers and books and write letters and lists, you show your young child how reading and writing are useful. By demonstrating why reading and writing are important, you will motivate your child to become a reader and writer.
- Set aside a consistent time each day for reading aloud. Choose a read-aloud time that fits your family's summer schedule and stick to it every day. Your baby, toddler or young child will look forward to this special time together.
- Connect read-aloud choices to summer activities. Read your child a book about the beach, such as "Sea, Sand, Me!" before or after a beach trip, or read "The Very Lonely Firefly" after your child discovers fireflies at a family cookout. When you read and discuss books about things your child has experienced, you help him learn important vocabulary and extend his understanding of experiences.
- Check out summer programs at your local public library. Many feature special story times, sing-alongs and puppet shows during the summer. These programs offer fun opportunities for your child to expand his literacy-related skills.
- Look at letters and words as you enjoy summer activities. As you walk to the park, point out stop signs and letters in street signs. When you visit the local pool, point out the list of pool rules. Let your child draw and write with chalk on the sidewalk. By drawing your child's attention to print and letters, you teach her about specific letters and words while pointing out the many uses of print.
- Take books along on outings. Pack some board books in your beach bag or picnic basket, and bring a stack of books on long car rides. You and your child can enjoy books together anywhere you go this summer.

This article came from: <http://www.pbs.org/parents/education/reading-language/reading-tips/summer-reading-tips-for-parents-of-babies-toddlers-and-young-children/>

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Stop The Summer Slide: Tips for Families

Summer slide is the loss of academic skills and knowledge over the course of the break from school. Research has shown that children can lose one to two months of math and reading skills during the summer. As parents and families, there are many ways you can support the continuation of your child's learning all summer—and create opportunities that remind your child learning can be fun and happen anywhere. These tips offer inspiration and ideas to keep your child's mind engaged, while boosting his or her learning throughout the summer.

READ EVERY DAY

Reading every day, either with an adult or independently, is essential for your child to continue sharpening reading skills. Create a summer reading list and plan with your child, based on his or her interests. Summer is a great time to mix things up and try different types of reading materials, such as graphic novels, periodicals or poetry. Utilize your local library—not only for reading materials, but also for the summer reading programs they have available for children.

MATH IN EVERYDAY EXPERIENCES

Opportunities for children to stretch their math skills present themselves throughout daily activities. Invite your child to calculate your arrival time to various destinations, practice fractions while prepping meals, or compare prices during a trip to the grocery store. Provide your child with measurement tools and a list of objects to measure, or have him or her survey family members about their favorites and graph the results. Board games, dice games, card games, dominoes and puzzles are also great tools for reinforcing math skills.

FIT AND ACTIVE

Many children experience weight gain during the summer months. Maintain healthy eating habits and structured eating patterns to keep your child's nutrition on track. Encourage your child to be physically active with fun and interesting activities. Invite him or her to turn up the music and have a dance party, use objects found in your home to create an obstacle course, or jump rope while reciting jump rope rhymes or counting by 5s, 10s, 3s or 6s. Take walks around your neighborhood, visit your local parks, or have your child try a new sport at your local recreation center.

EXPLORING SCIENCE

Summer is a great time to take advantage of the science learning nature has to offer. Invite your child to observe clouds and learn about the different types and how they are formed. Encourage your child to explore your outdoor area for insects, then document and research his or her findings. Plant vegetables or flowers and record the changes in their growth, or learn about volume while playing water tag.

CREATIVE ENDEAVORS

Keep your child's creative juices flowing this summer with art, construction or drama projects. Invite your child to practice telling stories by a "campfire," to re-enact your favorite family movie or to create new lyrics to your favorite song. Allow for open-ended creative expression by providing art and craft materials or various construction materials and letting your child unleash his or her imagination.

FAMILY PROJECTS

Family projects are a great way to work together as a family while your child reinforces his or her critical thinking and time management skills. Once your family has determined a project, create a plan that includes timelines, tasks, costs and responsibilities. Ideas for family projects include designing a garden, organizing and operating a family garage sale, constructing a home improvement project, coordinating a neighborhood fun run or bike rally, and creating plans for a road trip.

COMMUNITY RESOURCES

Our communities have many fun and interactive learning opportunities for families during the summer months—and some are even free! Consider places such as parks, zoos, museums, festivals, concerts, local libraries and recreation centers. Community experiences offer children exposure to new places, people and cultures. Your child's teacher and school can also be a resource for tips and strategies to maintain learning during the summer break.

INVITE A FRIEND

Create learning adventures with one or more of your child's friends in mind, such as designing a scavenger hunt for a friend or starting a book club in which children and their friends can share a snack while chatting about their latest good reads. Friends can help turn up the fun factor to the summer learning activities you have planned for your child!

WRITE ABOUT IT

Invite your child to create a journal to record the events he or she participates in throughout the summer months. Encourage your child to incorporate illustrations and graphics along with his or her written words. In addition, children can practice letter-writing skills by chronicling their most memorable events to friends, family members, teachers or classmates.

TEACHABLE MOMENTS

Teachable moments are unplanned situations that can be used as learning experiences. They can happen anytime and anywhere. When they present themselves, capitalize on teachable moments as another way to boost your child's learning during the summer months.

[www.https://naaweb.org/images/SummerSlideArticle.pdf](https://naaweb.org/images/SummerSlideArticle.pdf)

Fireworks Safety

With warm weather and family events, the Fourth of July can be a fun time with great memories. But before your family celebrates, make sure everyone knows about fireworks safety. If not handled properly, fireworks can cause burn and eye injuries in kids and adults. The best way to protect your family is not to use any fireworks at home — period. Attend public fireworks displays, and leave the lighting to the professionals. Lighting fireworks at home isn't even legal in many areas, so if you still want to use them, be sure to check with your local police department first. If they're legal where you live, keep these safety tips in mind:

- Kids should never play with fireworks. Things like firecrackers, rockets, and sparklers are just too dangerous. If you give kids sparklers, make sure they keep them outside and away from the face, clothing, and hair. Sparklers can reach 1,800°F (982°C) — hot enough to melt gold.
- Buy only legal fireworks (legal fireworks have a label with the manufacturer's name and directions; illegal ones are unlabeled), and store them in a cool, dry place. Illegal fireworks usually go by the names M-80, M100, blockbuster, or quarter pounder. These explosives were banned in 1966, but still account for many fireworks injuries.
- Never try to make your own fireworks.
- Always use fireworks outside and have a bucket of water and a hose nearby in case of accidents.
- Steer clear of others — fireworks have been known to backfire or shoot off in the wrong direction. Never throw or point fireworks at someone, even in jest.
- Don't hold fireworks in your hand or have any part of your body over them while lighting. Wear some sort of eye protection, and avoid carrying fireworks in your pocket — the friction could set them off.
- Point fireworks away from homes, and keep away from brush and leaves and flammable substances. The National Fire Protection Association estimates that local fire departments respond to more 50,000 fires caused by fireworks each year.
- Light one firework at a time (not in glass or metal containers), and never relight a dud.
- Don't allow kids to pick up pieces of fireworks after an event. Some may still be ignited and can explode at any time.
- Soak all fireworks in a bucket of water before throwing them in the trash can.
- Think about your pet. Animals have sensitive ears and can be extremely frightened or stressed on the Fourth of July. Keep pets indoors to reduce the risk that they'll run loose or get injured.

If a child is injured by fireworks, immediately go to a doctor or hospital. If an eye injury occurs, don't allow your child to touch or rub it, as this may cause even more damage. Also, don't flush the eye out with water or attempt to put any ointment on it. Instead, cut out the bottom of a paper cup, place it around the eye, and immediately seek medical attention — your child's eyesight may depend on it. If it's a burn, remove clothing from the burned area and run cool, not cold, water over the burn (do not use ice). Call your doctor immediately.

Fireworks are meant to be enjoyed, but you'll enjoy them much more knowing your family is safe. Take extra precautions this Fourth of July and your holiday will be a blast!

<http://kidshealth.org/en/parents/fireworks.html>

What's Going On At Our Office

Trainings in July

***Ready, Set, Go! Transportation Safety:** Thursday, July 6th, 2017 6:30pm - 8:30pm
CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

***Playground Safety:** Saturday, July 8th, 2017 8:00 am - 12:00 pm CCR&R / Cost: \$12.00
for CCR&R Library Members, \$16.00 for non-members / Credit: 4 CHC's

***It's SIDS :** Monday, July 10th, 2017 6:30pm - 8:30pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for CCR&R
Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

***Let's Talk About That! Positive Language & Interactions with Preschoolers:**
Tuesday, July 11th, 2017 6:30pm - 8:30pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for CCR&R Library
Members, \$8.00 for non-members / Credit: 2 CHC's

*** Transitions: Change Is Hard! But It Doesn't Have To Hurt:** Thursday, July 13th,
2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for
non-members/ Credit: 2 CHC's

***Temperament of Infants and Toddlers: Understanding and Supporting Individual
Differences:** Wednesday, July 19th, 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for
CCR&R Library Members, \$8.30 for non-members/ Credit: 2 CHC's

*** Ray &The Sunbeatables: A Sun Safety Curriculum For Preschoolers:** Thursday,
July 20th, 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm CCR&R / Cost: \$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00
for non-members/ Credit: 2 CHC's **Maximum is 12 participants!**

***Foundations of Inclusion:** Tuesday, July 25th, 2017 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm CCR&R / Cost:
\$6.00 for CCR&R Library Members, \$8.00 for non-members/ Credit: 2 CHC's

***NC Foundations for Early Learning and Development:** Monday, July 31st, 2017
6:30 pm - 9:00 pm CCR&R AND Monday August 7th, 2017 6:30pm-9:00pm / Cost: \$20.00 for
CCR&R Library Members, \$25.00 for non-members/ Credit: .5 CEUs

July 2017

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
						1 <i>International Chicken Wing Day</i>
2 <i>Made in the US Day</i>	3 <i>Superman Day</i>	4 <i>Independence Day</i>	5 <i>National Graham Cracker Day</i>	6 <i>Fried Chicken Day</i>	7 <i>Chocolate Day</i>	8 <i>Coca Cola Day</i>
9 <i>National Sugar Cookie Day</i>	10 <i>Don't Step on a Bee Day</i>	11 <i>World Population Day</i>	12 <i>National Different Colored Eyes Day</i>	13 <i>National French Fries Day</i>	14 <i>National Motorcycle Day</i>	15 <i>National Give Something Away Day</i>
16 <i>National Ice Cream Day</i>	17 <i>World Emoji Day</i>	18 <i>National Sour Candy Day</i>	19 <i>National Hot Dog Day</i>	20 <i>International Cake Day</i>	21 <i>National Junk Food Day</i>	22 <i>National Day of the Cowboy</i>
23 <i>Parents Day</i>	24 <i>Cousins Day</i>	25 <i>Video Games Day</i>	26 <i>Americans with Disabilities Day</i>	27 <i>National Chili Dog Day</i>	28 <i>National Milk Chocolate Day</i>	29 <i>Lasagna Day</i>
30 <i>Friendship Day</i>	31 <i>National Avocado Day</i>					

Child Care Resource & Referral

2111 Suite F
Neuse Blvd.
New Bern, NC 28560
Phone: 252-672-5921 Ext. 23
Fax: 252-672-5922
E-mail: bianca@cravensmartstart.org

*For training calendars
& special events, check
out our website or
Facebook!*



Child Care Resource and Referral is here for you. FREE referrals to fit your child care needs with a licensed, regulated, or legally exempt childcare program.

Looking for:

**Full-Time/Part-Time Care*

**Before/After School Care*

**Part-Time Preschool*

**Weekend Care*

**Drop-In Care*

**Hourly Care*

Mission Statement For CCR&R

To enhance the quality and quantity of child care services in Craven County by providing a wide range of information, referrals, advocacy and training services to families, providers and the community in general.

Congratulations Providers



Increasing Stars

Increased to 4 Stars

**Embracing Differences Child Care
& After School**

