

The Power and Pleasure of Summer Reading



This Summer, Bring Books and Learning to Life

Summertime offers built-in opportunities for families to bond, explore, and learn at a more relaxed pace. With longer daylight hours and fewer daily demands, summer is the perfect time to dive into children's favorite subjects and help them practice skills that will keep their reading progress on track come fall.

One key skill is fluency, the ability to read orally with sufficient accuracy and speed, plus appropriate expression. Children who read fluently are better comprehenders, since they don't exhaust their mental energies struggling to lift words off the page. Try these tips from Reading Rockets to determine your child's fluency and learn ways to improve it.

Who invented fireworks? Why do crickets chirp? Whether your child is an avid or reluctant reader, choose books that match his or her interests to improve engagement. Simple activities and outings solidify learning through hands-on experiences. After a trip to the museum, ask your child to write a list of all the exhibits they saw or a journal entry describing their favorite activity. Young children can draw and label pictures.

Listen Up! Read Alouds and Audio Books

According to *Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading*, "The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children." Reading aloud never grows old,

even if students do; it opens the door to delight, anticipation, discussion, and speculation. It can improve fluency, while introducing children to vocabulary and concepts that surpass their decoding abilities. In fact, young students can listen and comprehend at least two grade levels above their reading level. Reading Rockets' "Start with a Book" campaign offers [tips](#) for reading aloud. *Scaffolding with Storybooks: A Guide for Enhancing Young Children's Language and Literacy Development* provides parents, teachers, and other caregivers with [evidence-based suggestions](#) for getting the most out of story time. Parents of preschool students can enhance storybook reading with [STAR](#) (Sit Together and Read).



Listening to audio books in cars, planes, buses, and trains is an ideal antidote to "Are we there yet?" and a springboard to family discussions. Audio books can help struggling readers thrive, especially students with dyslexia, or those with visual impairments. [Learning Ally](#) offers its members over 80,000 free fiction and non-fiction titles, including textbooks. You can also check out the audio selections at your local library.

Images retrieved from [here](#), [here](#), [here](#), and [here](#).

www.literacyhow.com

203-239-7323

[Send us an Email](#)

Our Mission is to EMPOWER TEACHERS to ensure that every child learns to read by third grade.

100 Broadway 2nd Floor | North Haven, CT 06473 US

