



DENNIS-YARMOUTH TITLE I

FROM THE TITLE I COORDINATOR:

It is absolutely amazing how quickly this year has raced by. The Title I staff and myself have had a wonderful year working with each and every one of you and we hope that you all had a great year as well.

With the summer coming, I want to encourage you all to set aside time for your children to read. It is important that they read each day for at least 1/2 hour.

. If you stick to doing this, they should not suffer from summer fall off. Yarmouth and Dennis both have wonderful libraries full of books for your children to read. All the schools will be sending home reading lists,



and packets full of summer activities for you to do with your child.

Also, in addition to reading, do not forget to have your child brush up on his/her mathematics facts. The single most important thing you can do for your child in terms of mathematics is to be sure that he/she knows his/her facts. For example:

Think of games to use to make learning the facts fun. There is a great program for the computer called Math Blaster that is really great for making learning the facts fun.

To help your child's oral reading fluency, have your child read out loud to you on a regular basis. The more your child reads, the better reader he/she will become.

And, let's not forget writing. Occasionally, have your child write a summary of the book he/she has read. Have your child write out the grocery list, or a list of places he/she wants to visit.

Check with Rockland Trust and/or TD Bank for summer reading programs that actually pay your child to read this summer. At Rockland

Trust, your child can earn \$2.50 per book for up to 10 books—that's \$25.00!

Doing these things will help your child maintain his/her gains for the year, and will start school next September ahead of the game.

The many of the town libraries are running a summer reading program again this year.

Have your child set a goal with you to read for 1/2 hour each day for at least 5 days each week.

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HAVE A WONDERFUL, HAPPY, HEALTHY SUMMER VACATION!



10 TIPS TO STOP THE “SUMMER SLIDE”

1. **Take a book.** The best way to get your kids reading is to have books available, so take them with you, whether it's in the car, at the beach or waiting at the doctor's office.
2. **Summer recharge.** Plan ahead for a fun reading-related trip midway through the summer to reignite the love of books and reward kids for reading. It doesn't have to be anything fancy; the trip could simply be camping like a character in a favorite book.
3. **Explore hobbies.** Reading is extra fun when the subject matter involves your favorite things. Look for books that match your child's personal interests, such as dinosaurs or gymnastics.
4. **Magazine madness.** Plenty of popular kids magazines can be delivered to your home for an exciting surprise in the mailbox that makes an excellent reason to flip it open and start reading.
5. **Road trip reading.** A long car ride is the perfect opportunity for the whole family to enjoy an audiobook together. You can discuss the story over lunch breaks and fuel stops to engage even further with the book.
6. **Pen pals.** Work with other parents to set up pen pals for the summer and have kids write letters back and forth to practice their reading and writing skills.
7. **Act it out.** Encourage kids to gather some neighborhood friends and create a play based on a favorite book. This helps kids understand the characters and story lines by bringing them to life.
8. **Take direction.** Ask kids to read the directions for a classic summer project, like setting up a tent or making a snack for a picnic. Whether they are directing you or doing it themselves, reading and understanding directions builds important skills.
9. **Head to the library.** Most libraries offer fun and interactive summer reading programs for kids that include incentives, activities and structure to help get kids excited about reading all summer long.
10. **Tap into tech time.** If you've committed to limiting screen time for the summer, consider a compromise that lets kids use devices for productive activities such as reading e-books.

The sooner you start a habit of reading every day, the better your child will be prepared when school begins again.



Summer Learning, Side-by-Side

Summer is a fun season! It's full of interesting bugs, games, and activities. These may lead to lots of questions from your kids:

- How do fireflies light up?
- Where do all the thunderstorms come from?
- Who made the rules for baseball?
- Why does it stay light for so long?
- How do you make ice cream?
- Where do the colors in fireworks come from?
- What happens if I swallow a watermelon seed?

Grab hold of one of your child's questions and start a journey of discovery together!

- Make regular visits to the library to find books, magazines, and movies on the topic your child is interested in. Look for related fiction as well as non-fiction.
- Ask questions as you read together or when your independent reader finishes a book. Ask your child to tell you something new or surprising he learned, or to read a section that was full of interesting words.
- Help your child learn the basics of Internet research, at home or at the library. Bookmark a few kid-friendly, educational websites and guide him through simple searches. Look at the American Library Association's "[Great Websites for Kids](#)" page for ideas.
- Check out the summer programming schedule on your local public television station or educational shows on cable to see if there are shows related to your child's new interest.
- Seek out free or inexpensive resources in your community: parks and recreation center programs, a community garden or farmer's market, museums (many have kids-get-in-free days), and neighborhood interest groups like the Stargazers Club – or start your own interest group! Taking a field trip together and having a hands-on experience can really add to what you have been learning from books and movies.
- Keep a record of what you learn together – it's a great way to engage young learners, provide writing practice, and help kids retain new knowledge. Start a journal, create a scrapbook, or send a handmade postcard to family or friends.
- Invite your child to talk with family and friends about her new interest. Maybe your child never knew that grandpa collects rocks, too, and has a wonderful collection and stories to share. Encouraging kids to share with others gives them a chance to have some fun taking on the role of teacher!

**For more information on reading and learning with your child, visit:
www.ReadingRockets.org/calendar/summer**



The Night *Before* the Museum

Daytrips, vacations and special outings create special memories for families. The time leading up to your trip can be filled with excitement and adventure too! Whether you're going to the zoo, the museum, or a state park, below are a few "stops" to make on your way to family fun.

First stop: Your public library

Whether you're going to the zoo or to an amusement park, your library will have great nonfiction and fiction books about your destination. Full of colorful photographs and interesting facts, these books can provide great background knowledge to enhance your trip.

Second stop: Your destination's website

Most locations have websites, and many include special sections just for kids. These often include maps, games, information about special exhibits and shows, and fun facts.

Third stop: Your house

Is anyone in your house a collector? Now is a great time to share your collections and talk about their history. Whether you collect coins, stamps or rocks, your child will enjoy sharing these collections with you. Grandparents, extended family, and neighbors may want to share their collections, too! This is a great time to talk about the different types of collections you might see at the museum you're about to visit.

Fourth stop: Your kitchen table

After gathering information from books, websites, and your house, sit down as a family and plan your trip. Have your child help in the planning by using a calendar or for day trips, simple clock faces. "10:00, watch sea lions eat breakfast, 11:00 visit new camel exhibit, 12:30 watch elephants take a bath." This is also a great time to write out a packing checklist.

A simple notebook made from lined or blank paper can help record the plans, and can also turn into an informal travel journal to take with you. Wherever you go this summer, have a great time, and find simple ways to take literacy with you!

For more ideas on reading and learning together, visit the Reading Rockets activities section:
www.ReadingRockets.org/article/c71



The Importance of Reading Widely

It's easy to find yourself lugging home a stack of library books that your kids will love to listen to. It's harder to make sure you're bringing home a wide variety of books. But that may be just as important. Sharing lots of different kinds, or genre, of books with your young reader exposes them to different words, different pictures, and whole new worlds. Below are some genres to try with your reader that complement 'traditional' fiction. Some are suggestions that can be used as read alouds, other may be ones your child can read.

Fantasy/Science Fiction

From talking dogs to imaginary underground worlds, fantasy books contain elements that are not possible in real life. Cornelia Funke, J. K. Rowling and Lemony Snicket are all authors to consider within the fantasy genre.

Historical Fiction

Well written historical fiction helps past events come alive for children. With topics as wide ranging as pioneer life and ancient civilizations, books within this genre awaken the historian in any child.

Biography

Biographies have a way of inspiring kids. The best ones introduce famous presidents, inventors, educators and scientists in a way that helps kids identify with the person. David Adler has a series of biographies that are well loved by early elementary students.

Informational Books

What makes a volcano erupt? How tall is the tallest man? Where does the word pumpkin come from? Kids ask many questions, and reference books help them find the answers. When choosing reference books for your child, make sure they were recently written and seem to contain accurate information.

Poetry

Poetry just isn't as widely read as it should be. Several children's poets have collections that will make your child howl with laughter. Poetry is often shorter too, which makes the task of reading less overwhelming for new or reluctant readers. Jack Prelutsky and Shel Silverstein are great authors to start with in this genre.

Whatever you choose to read with your child, make it an enjoyable experience. Have fun visiting that magical place, getting to know that famous person, finding the answers to questions, and reading with the rhythm of poetry.

For specific titles, visit our Recommended Books for Kids section, arranged by theme:
www.ReadingRockets.org/books/booksbytheme



Start with a Book: Read. Talk. Explore.

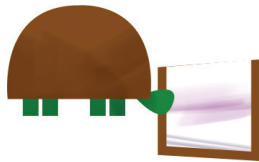
Books and activities to inspire summer reading and learning for kids 3-9 years old



Does your child love dinosaurs, bugs, birds, planes, music, sports, superheroes, inventors, art or cooking? At the Start with a Book website, you'll find themes that match your child's curiosities and interests — and new and exciting things to explore together this summer!

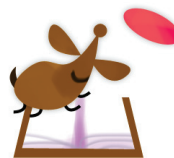
Use Start with a Book to get great ideas for:

- books to read
- activities to do
- videos to watch
- apps to try



Plus you'll find:

- sign-up for reading tips texted to you 3-4 times per week (in English or Spanish)
- great kids' websites
- resources to help strengthen kids' reading skills



Open up a world of discovery this summer at:
www.startwithabook.org

Visit your public library to gather up fiction and nonfiction books — and more ideas for summer fun!

Reading Tips to Go!

Sign up to get our summer reading tips, delivered right to your mobile phone. We'll share great summertime ideas for reading, writing and hands-on fun.

Just text "READING" to 41411

Tips in Spanish, too!

