

Ideas for over the summer



Read, Read, Read!

*Visit the library, bookstore, etc. and encourage your child to check out or purchase a variety of literature (i.e. fiction, nonfiction, magazines, poetry, comic books, etc).

*Show your child that reading is important to you. Model, model, model. The more your child sees you reading, the more motivated they are to become avid readers themselves.

*Set aside an hour a day just for reading. Make it fun! Bring a blanket to the park and read. Build a fort with blankets and read with flashlights. Set up a tent in your backyard designated for your special reading time together. Have your child call a grandparent or relative and let them read to them over the phone.

*Take reading on the road. When going on family trips, choose an audio book to listen to as a family. Stop it frequently and have discussions about what is happening in the story.

*Read a book that is also a movie. Read the book first and then watch the movie together. Discuss the similarities and differences between the two.

Fun with Writing!

Create a fun summer journal with your child. Below are some ideas to encourage your child to do some writing over the summer. Remember that writing does not always have to be in the form of sentences.

Your child could:

*Make a list of books read over the summer.

*Make a list of things they want to do this summer.

*Create an acrostic poem (frog example).

*Create a taxonomy (a-z list) of words about a topic. This could be summer words, vacation words, insects, camp words, animals, science words, school words, what we saw at the zoo, etc.

*Glue in postcards with captions from a trip.

*Write daily journal entries about what they've done for the day (ex: trip to the beach, visiting the zoo, birthday party, etc).

*Glue in a menu from a restaurant and write about the meal they ate.

*Write a letter to the author of a book they've read, asking questions about the book or writing about their favorite character.

*Sketch something and label the picture.

*Draw or glue in a map of somewhere they've visited and then write about where they went, whom they saw, what they did, etc.