

TIPS FOR SUMMER READING

Engaging Families Through Literacy

- Schedule a regular time to share books with your child and establish a regular routine.
- It's OK to let your child read e-books if he or she is comfortable using a tablet, but remember, the most important thing is to spend time together sharing the book. It's about the experience, not the technology.
- Come up with fun ways to engage your child beyond the actual reading of the book.
- Let your child choose. Let them chase their interests and they'll be reading more than they realize.
- Create an outdoor reading area so the whole family can enjoy the summer weather and not feel stuck inside.
- Connect with other families to share books and arrange reading playdates. You can even set up a Facebook group to stay in touch and share ideas, swap books and make plans.
- Write a book with your child about them, your family, their favorite foods or toy, their friends or whatever interests them most. Your child can draw pictures or use actual photos. You can also use one of many templates available to create and print the book on your computer.
- Invite the family pet to join the book sharing experience. Even if your child can't read yet, have her 'read' the story to you and the pet.
- Find books that are centered on summer activities he or she enjoys. If your child likes to go horseback riding, for example, find books about horses or stories with horses as an integral part of the plot.
- If you are taking a trip, read books about your destination with your child before you leave. Do some research with them on the location and find things in the area they want to do while visiting.
- If you are taking your kids somewhere for the day, such as a pool, the beach, a picnic or the zoo, pack a book to share and have a reading break or two during day.
- Create a summer reading challenge with family members or connect to your public library's summer reading challenge activities.