

Make the Call: Prevent Summer Learning Loss



According to the National Summer Learning Association (NSLA), "All young people experience learning losses when they do not engage in educational activities during the summer. Research spanning 100 years shows that students typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of the summer (White, 1906; Entwisle & Alexander 1992; Cooper, 1996;

Downey et al, 2004)." Effective ideas for combatting summer learning loss are right at your fingertips! Check out these resources from NSLA.

Summer Reading Tips to Go!

Reading Rockets' summer learning tips provide ideas to jumpstart reading, writing, and simple science activities for you, your students, and your child. Subscribers will receive 3-4 text messages each week—in English or Spanish—all summer long.



Phone It In!

Teachers in Philadelphia's Independence Mission Schools (a Literacy How client) designed an innovative accountability system for summer reading. First, they selected a dozen books for each grade level. Next, they asked each child to choose which three to four books

s/he plans to read, then purchased and distributed copies using grant money. Finally, they instructed students on how to "call in" to a special phone number to report on what they read. Would you like to try this with your students? Simply create a procedure that works best for your students' needs—e.g., student's name, the book title, "I dis/liked this book because ..."

Students can record "reports" using a smart phone's voice memo feature, then text or email to the appointed recipient. We love this approach because it promotes students' "oral rehearsal" before calling in—that is, practicing spoken language and retelling—and offers teachers a window into the language skills of their incoming students.



Teachers' Top Picks for Out of School Learning

Encourage your students and kids to tap into the "smart" in mobile phones. Check out [these learning apps, websites, and games](#) curated and recommended by Common Sense Graphite, an organization dedicated to helping kids thrive in a world of media and technology. You may also be interested in these [recommended apps](#) for practicing foundational literacy skills.



Image of the Kid President retrieved from <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=l-gQLqv9f4o>.

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

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