



## Struggling Readers and Summer Holidays

Summer holidays bring about a loss of skills learned during the school year, especially for struggling readers. If they slip out of the routine of practicing reading on a daily basis, this can bring about some serious consequences.

Research shows that reading just six books during the summer may keep a struggling reader from regressing. When choosing the six, be sure that they are just right - not too hard and not too easy. Have fun reading these books with your child. Use different voices; act them out, or draw pictures of favorite parts.

Take advantage of your local library. Ask for help selecting books that match your child's age, interest, and abilities. Libraries often run summer reading programs that motivate kids to read, so visit your neighborhood library.

Use your imagination when engaging your child in reading activities during the summer. Read parts of the newspaper, headlines, weather, comics, etc. Why not find and read a recipe together and then make it. Read magazines and brochures. The sky is the limit!

Your child can keep a journal of their summer activities, and then read them. Children love to read things that they write about. Have them write a letter to a grandparent, aunt, uncle, cousin, or book author.

Don't forget to keep reading aloud. This benefits children of all ages, especially those who struggle. The advantage of reading aloud to your child is that you can read books that your child can't. This will build upon their listening comprehension skills, appreciation for literature, background knowledge and ability to make predictions.

Whatever you chose to do, make it enjoyable, make it fun, and make your child feel successful! Have a great summer!