

Summer Learning Text/Call Tips

1 June 1	<p>We have BIG Dreams for Our Children! Did you know reading during school breaks helps children do well in school and grow into successful adults?</p> <p>LINK TO PARENT FACT SHEET (see below)</p>
2 June 8	<p>Reading during the summer will help your child achieve his/her dreams!</p> <p>Show your reading pride! Take a picture every time you see your child reading.</p>
3 June 15	<p>Your child is a star! Have your child tell a story and record it on your phone. Then watch it together.</p>
4 June 22	<p>While visiting a place your child has been to before, ask him/her to tell you what happened the last time he/she was there. Ask questions to learn more details.</p>
5 June 29	<p>It's Summer Learning Week! Ask your child to draw a picture about how we celebrated National Summer Learning Week. Have them write a sentence describing the picture.</p>
6 July 6	<p>Rhyming teaches children how language works. Take turns listing words that rhyme—cool/pool, coat/ boat, sun/fun. Make it into a game!</p>
7 July 13	<p>Did you know that listening and talking with children helps them learn to read and write? When you ask questions, make comments that help your child provide more details.</p>
8 July 20	<p>Reading helps increase your child's vocabulary! Read a book with your child, pick new words from the book and have your child draw a picture of the word's meaning.</p>
9 July 27	<p>Have your child predict the future! After he/she finishes a book, ask your child what he/she thinks happens next.</p>
10 August 3	<p>It's time to head back to school! Have your child make a comic strip of their first day back to school using pictures and words.</p>



WE HAVE BIG DREAMS FOR OUR CHILDREN

We want them to grow up to be happy and successful adults—to be the best that they can be. School plays a big part in helping our children achieve these dreams—and so does summer!

Our children work hard during the school year and they learn a lot. But if we are not careful, they can lose what they learn over the summer. When that happens, they start the next school year behind and it's hard to catch up. We can keep this from happening, and it's as simple as reading, talking, listening and writing.

READING • *How can you make reading fun for your child?*

- **READ WITH YOUR CHILD.** The more parents read to children, the more children enjoy reading.
- **GRAB A BOOK FROM THE LIBRARY FOR YOU TOO.** Let your child see you reading.
- **LET YOUR CHILD SELECT BOOKS ON TOPICS THAT INTEREST HIM OR HER.** To check if the book is the right reading level for your child, you can:
 - » Ask a librarian for help.
 - » Use the five-finger rule. Ask your child to read 100 words from a book and have him raise one finger for each word that is too difficult to figure out. If he gets to five fingers, the book is probably too hard.

TALKING & LISTENING • *It's about more than books.*

- **ASK YOUR CHILD QUESTIONS ABOUT WHAT HE OR SHE IS READING.**
 - » What do you think will happen next?
 - » Why do you think she did that?
 - » What was the story or chapter about?
- **TALK ON THE GO.** When you are out and about with your child, talk together about what you see, hear, think, and feel.
- **RHYMING TEACHES CHILDREN HOW LANGUAGE WORKS.** Take turns listing words that rhyme—cool/pool, coat/boat, sun/fun. Make it into a game!

WRITING • *Writing helps children learn to express their ideas and feelings.*

- **HAVE PENCILS, CRAYONS, MARKERS AND PAPER OUT AT HOME.**
- **MAKE WRITING FUN.**
- **WRITE YOUR CHILD A SHORT NOTE** and ask them to write you back.
- **MAKE YOUR FAMILY'S SHOPPING LIST WITH YOUR CHILD.** Ask your child to check the items off the list as you find them. Talk with children about what you'll do with each item.

