

Report to **PARENTS**

Make Summer Learning a Family Affair

School's out for summer, but that doesn't mean learning has to stop. Summer break is the perfect time for families to incorporate lessons into daily activities—and even vacations—to keep kids engaged and their minds active. These fun, brain-friendly activities are a great place to start.

Set Expectations

Tell your child that reading and learning activities will be an important part of their summer, but make sure they know they'll still have lots of time for play.

Create Mini Lessons

Everyday activities make great learning opportunities. Have kids count change, write a shopping list, or calculate a recipe's measurements.

Encourage Creative Writing

Have your child keep a summer journal, write letters to family members or friends, or start a family cookbook with your favorite recipes, instructions, and shopping lists.

Read Daily

Set aside at least 15 minutes a day for your entire family to read. (That means parents, too!) Organize a summer read-a-thon with goals for each family member, or sign your child up for your library's summer book club.

Let Them Play

Schools often use playful learning in the classroom. To boost playful learning at home, encourage kids to play matching or guessing games or solve puzzles. Go for



a walk and have them look for shapes in the neighborhood buildings or playground equipment or hunt for letters or words around town. Setting up a restaurant or a shop is full of learning opportunities for kids, too.

Travel Around the Globe— Virtually

Have an international evening where you cook a meal with recipes from a different country. Learn basic words in that country's language. Find the country on a map, and read a book or an article about what life is like there.

Learn During Family Trips

On vacation, stop at zoos, children's museums, or historic sites. Have your child help you plot out the trip using maps and keep a journal along the way. Older kids can tally up miles, keep track of expenses, or compute gas mileage.