Make Reading Fun!

- Read to your child. Read something of interest to you and your child.
- Buddy read with your child. Take turns reading the pages in a book. You can read the left side and your child can read the right side.
- Let your child read independently. Give your child the freedom to pick up a book whenever the mood strikes! Let your child see you read. Children want to be just like us, so if they see us reading, they will want to read, too.
- Throw a book exchange party! Trade favorite books with friends.
- Dress up and act out a favorite part of the book. Have a reading picnic.
- Take favorite food and books to the park!
- Explore local summer reading programs. Check out the wonderful programs that are being offered at the Roxbury Public Library in Succasunna and at Barnes and Noble in Ledgewood!

Series Fever!

Have you heard, “Can I get the next book in the series?” Please, please, please! If yes, then your child has caught Series Fever. If not, this summer may be the time to help your child discover a series that he/she can get hooked on reading independently or hearing read aloud by you!

Popular series books for this age group can include: Magic Tree House, Junie B. Jones, A to Z Mysteries, Cat Wings, Jigsaw Jones, Abracadabra & Cam Jansen.

What makes series like these so appealing to kids? First and foremost, they foster excitement for and a confidence in reading. They also build upon one another, creating story language that your child can easily follow.

At times, the literary merit of these series can be questioned; however, these “formula fiction” books are necessary in helping your child to develop a “need to read.”

So, head out to the library, book store, local garage sales or a friend’s house and help your child to discover and build a series collection that he/she calls their own!

Grade level Favorites

Nancy Clancy Chapter Books, Amelia Bedelia Chapter Books, Capital Mysteries, Field Trip Mysteries, Horrible Harry, Ivy and Bean, Puppy Place, Stink
Bink and Gollie, A-Z Mysteries, The Day the Crayons Quit by Daywalt
Sophies Squash by Zietlow
That is Not my Hat by Klassen
This Moose Belongs to Me by Jeffers
Superworm by Donaldson

Where to Find Things to Read

Visit the Roxbury Public Library. Miss Liz is always ready to help find the perfect book! Check out their summer reading program. Please call (973) 584-2400 ext. 113 for more info.

Read outside print – it’s everywhere and it’s free! Read signs on stores, labels on boxes (great in the supermarket!).

Check your mailbox.
Read newspapers, toy catalogs, bills and children’s magazines.

Check out the WWW.
Continue to use Raz-Kids through August 31st. www.mrspg.com, www.starfall.com, and www.storylineonline.net have some wonderful on-line stories that you can access for free!

LITERATURE AND MATH: PERFECT TOGETHER!

Research has shown that children learn mathematical concepts best through language and the manipulation of concrete objects. The books below are but a few that can be presented to young children that spark excitement and create opportunities to learn about math.

Ten Apples Up on Top – Theodore LeSeig
One Fish, Two Fish, Red Fish, Blue Fish – Dr. Seuss
Greedy Triangle – Marilyn Burns
If You Give A Mouse a Cookie – Laura Joffe Numeroff
The Grouch Ladybug – Eric Carle
Cookies Week – Cindy Ward
Mouse Count – Ellen Stoll Walsh
Rooster’s Off to See the World – Eric Carle
The M & M’s Counting Book – Bart

Looking for reading materials on your child’s reading level? Visit… www.scholastic.com/bookwizard/ or http://home.comcast.net/~ngiansante/index.html

Encourage your child to use the reading strategies they have been working on throughout the year:

Comprehension Strategies:
Making Connections, Asking Questions, Determining Importance, Synthesizing, Creating Images, Inferring

Using Fix Up Strategies/Decoding:
Does that word make sense? Use picture clues. Get your mouth ready with the beginning sound of the word. Chunk the parts of the words they know. Sound it out.

Keep a Vocabulary Journal.
Illustrate the word. Define the word. Use the word.

A Good Place to Start

The following list is a good place to start your summer reading (fiction and non-fiction), but it is only a beginning. Other titles by these authors or other authors offer enjoyable reading.

Ballyhoo Bay, Judy Sierra, 2009.
Down, Down, Down, Steve Jenkins, 2009.
The Sandwich Swap, Queen Rania of Jordan Al Abdullah, 2010.
Don’t Bump the Glump, Shel Silverstein, 2008.
Our Children Can Soar, Michele Cook, 2009.
Big Al, Andrew Clements, 1997.
Here Comes the Garbage Barge, Jonah Winter, 2010.
The House in the Night, Susan Marie Swanson, 2008.

Final Thought...

Make reading a part of your family’s summer… not only will you help your child to develop as a reader; you will also create memories that will last a lifetime!

Happy Reading!

This suggested summer reading publication was developed at the district level to further support families in their reading initiatives.

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