

## **What Is the Summer Slide?**

Kids lose significant knowledge in reading and math over summer break, which tends to have a snowball effect as they experience subsequent skill loss each year. A more recent study of children in 3rd to 5th grades also showed that students lost, on average, about 20 percent of their school-year gains in reading and 27 percent of their school-year gains in math during summer break.

## **Who Is at Risk?**

Younger children are prone to the most learning loss because they're at a crucial stage in their development. Things like decoding, letter knowledge, and word reading skills are very susceptible to decay without frequent practice, as are math facts like addition and subtraction.

## **What Can Parents Do to Help?**

The good news is that basic skills aren't hard to maintain over the off-season! There are a number of ways to keep kids engaged in reading and math over the summer:

1. Let kids read what they want.

Children won't gain as much from summer reading if they aren't truly enjoying it. Professor Kim says kids should have access to a wide variety of books that they enjoy reading and are fully able to comprehend. They'll be on board: Nearly 60 percent of children ages 6 to 17 say they love or like reading books for fun a lot. To get started, check out this year's Scholastic Challenge:

<https://www.scholastic.com/content/site/summer/home.html>  
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a free, educational program in which kids can enter reading minutes online to unlock exclusive digital rewards and help donate books to kids in need across the country. Ask your child's teacher or local librarian if they're participating — if not, you can register your child individually.

## 2. Make time for smart play.

Games and puzzles are a great way for kids to brush up on the basics while having fun at the same time. Whether it's a game geared specifically toward teaching kids math skills, or a learning activity that helps them brush up on vocabulary, there are plenty of ways to get children engaged and help them flex their brain power without turning it into a tutoring session.

## 3. Explore!

Experts have found that novelty stimulates the brain and promotes learning. Visiting a historic site or even simply reading together at the park can help your child get more excited about reading and learning. You can also visit a certain location inspired by the books you read together: Check out a zoo or planetarium - bringing up topics covered in the book. This helps reinforce what kids are learning from books in a real- world setting.

## 4. Use your imagination.

Kids who use their imagination are also expanding their vocabularies and experimenting with new concepts. Even though it may not seem like they're directly "learning" when they're crafting their own superhero capes with a superhero starter kit or dreaming up complex chain reactions with educational LEGO sets, they're still calling on familiar skills and developing new ones. You could even play "theater" and put on a show inspired by all of the great summer books you're reading together.



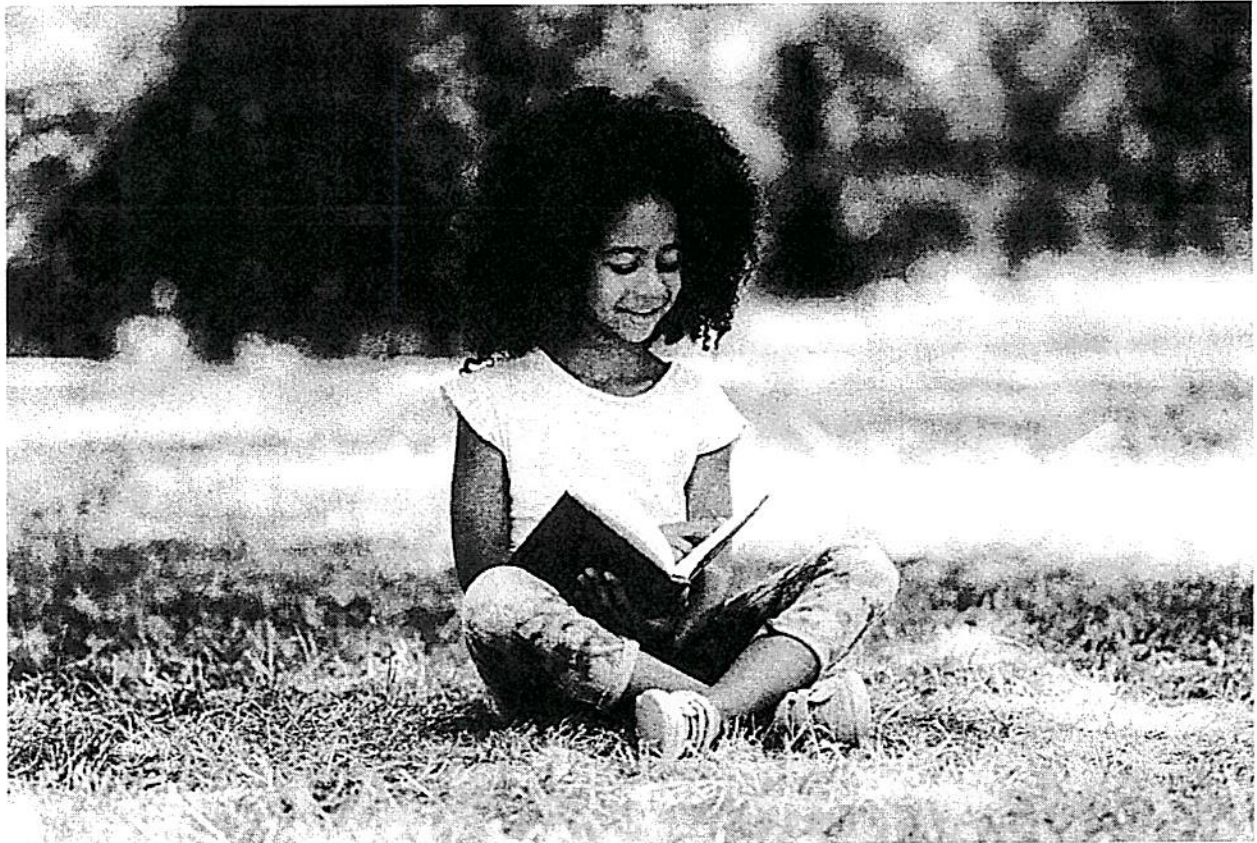
## Online Resources:

<https://www.scholastic.com/content/site/summer/home.html/>

[https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/summer-reading/kids/\\_/N-2m39Ztu1](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/summer-reading/kids/_/N-2m39Ztu1)

<https://www.ala.org/alsc/publications-resources/book-lists/summer-2023>

SCHOLASTIC  
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READING



## The Scholastic Summer Reading Promise

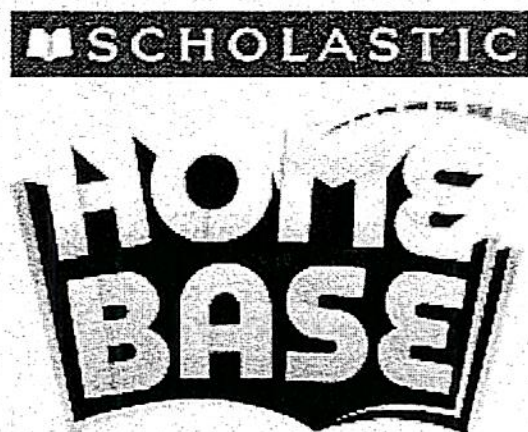
We know summertime can provide tremendous opportunities for kids to accelerate reading, to experience the social-emotional impact of good literature and stories, and to make up for any lost learning time as access to instruction and reading has had to be completely rethought due to the pandemic. Research has proven that in a typical year, summer reading supports skill gains, and its absence leads to widening skill gaps. **With this in mind, our Scholastic Summer Reading Promise is to help you get books in the hands of kids, support social-emotional well-being, build skills and create community among kids.**

Scholastic's work with all of our partners has changed dramatically this past year, reflecting the dedication of school leaders, teachers and families to address the needs of children in the face of great challenges. Together, we found new ways to get millions of books to children who were unable to attend schools while also supporting remote, hybrid, and in-person learning. We would like to use our proven summer reading resources combined with these learnings to ensure that your children have opportunities for reading acceleration, gain motivation and experience the confidence that reading success brings. Explore this site to learn more and you can also call us at: 1-800-SCHOLASTIC

## A Fun, Free and Safe Program for Kids



From Monday, April 26 to Friday, September 3 kids can participate in the **Scholastic Summer Reading Program** where they will be encouraged to read, celebrate their achievements and help increase access to books for their peers.



### *Join Home Base*

By creating an account on *Home Base*, kids can join a community of readers and will be able to read books and stories; attend weekly author events; interact with their favorite characters; play book-based games and activities; join dance parties; and more!

## Program Resources

Kids Home Base Experience

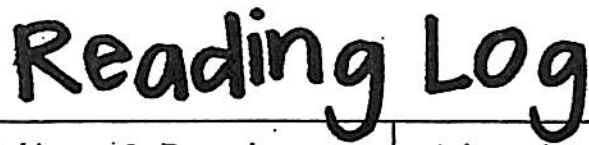
## Downloadable & Printable Program Information

About Scholastic Summer Reading

About Scholastic Home Base Summer Zone

Scholastic Summer Reading Certificate of Achievement

5 Questions to Kickstart Summer Reading Conversations



# Reading Log

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