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# How to Keep Your Child Learning Through Summer Break

Summer provides students (and teachers) with a much-needed break after a long school year. However, if your child spends their whole summer break doing nothing but sleeping in and playing video games, they could have a hard time settling back into a routine when the upcoming school year rolls around. This is especially the case if your child has been struggling academically.

To avoid <u>learning loss</u> and set your child up for success in the upcoming academic year, it's essential to find ways to keep them engaged throughout the summer. Here are some practical tips on how you can do just that:

#### Schedule Time for It

As a parent, you play a vital role in your child's learning. In order for them to retain and build upon what they've learned in the previous year, you will need to make time in your schedule to do <u>activities</u> with them and ensure that they are engaging in any studies or activities you have

assigned them. For example, if you arrange for them to read for 15 or 30 minutes each day, you will need to make sure they do it and be present in case they need assistance.

### **Prioritize Areas of Struggle**

If your child has specific subjects in which they are having difficulty, make those your priority this summer. Whether it's <u>math</u>, science, history, reading, and/or any other subject, look for online resources, workbooks, and other learning materials that can help you meet them where they are and guide them toward growth. Try to allocate 15 minutes a day to spend on the areas where your child struggles the most.

#### Invest in a Laptop

While it's not good for kids to spend too much time in front of a screen, not all screen time is unproductive. By purchasing a kid-friendly laptop, you can equip your child to engage in <u>educational shows</u> and games. And this will also enable your child to succeed in online learning, whether it's now or in the future. When determining <u>which laptop</u> to buy, be sure to consider factors like durability, user-friendliness, and the number of features provided.

## **Practice Reading**

Reading is one of the most foundational elements of education, so it should always get attention when it comes to your child's learning. Even if your child is reading at grade level, consider assigning them <u>books</u> to read for enjoyment over summer—which you can pick up at no charge from The Richards Library. And if your child is struggling with reading, then consider getting them a reading comprehension <u>workbook</u>. Working with them through a workbook could do wonders in helping them get a grasp on reading.

#### **Foster Creativity**

Finally, engaging your child's <u>creativity</u>—or even better, helping them engage their own—is essential for academic success. Not only that, but it can help them become more interested in their academics.

One of the simplest ways to foster your child's creativity is to assign them creative writing projects throughout the summer. For example, you could ask your child to write one paragraph each week. It could be about something they observed in the previous week, or it could be about a <u>specific prompt</u> that you give them. You could even ask them to write a short story over the summer!

No parents want their child to regress in their academics over the summer, especially when the child is struggling to begin with. Fortunately, you can make sure your child retains and builds upon the knowledge and skills they've acquired so far on their scholastic journey. Remember to make time for helping your child each day, and pinpoint any areas in which they are having the

most difficulty. Lastly, consider getting them a laptop, and give them reading and creative writing assignments that will help them grow.