SUMMER LEARNING IDEAS AT HOME AND IN YOUR COMMUNITY

All kids need to keep learning over the summer. If they don’t, they lose some of what they’ve learned during the school year, and those losses add up year after year. The following are some ways you can help your child learn during the summer months and send them back ready for the new school year.

- **Read at home every day.**
  Help your child pick books that interest him or her, set reading goals, and reward their effort. Start a family book club.

- **Imagine your story.**
  Create your own adventure. Enjoy writing a storybook, poetry, or short play together. Have a family reading or open mic night for everyone to perform and enjoy what you’ve created.

- **Keep a summer journal.**
  Have your child keep a journal about the books he or she enjoys, their favorite summer events or activities, and the new friends they’ve made.

- **Create a map of fun things to do in your community.**
  Check out local museums, aquariums, zoos, parks, or nature centers in your local area. Check the websites of your favorite spots for up-to-date information before visiting.

- **Plant a garden.**
  Start simple with a tomato container garden or fresh herbs grown on your kitchen window sill. It’s a great way to encourage healthy eating with your child and family.

- **Use counting skills in daily activities or errands.**
  Baking a cake? Let your child help count out the ingredients or minutes to mix the batter. Turn a grocery trip into a math lesson. Use coupons and help your child determine the discount.

- **Build something new using recycled materials.**
  Build your imagination run wild as you use cardboard boxes to make an amazing structure for your family to enjoy.

- **Be active.**
  Get outside with your child. Visit a park for a nature walk, ride bikes, or check out your community’s recreation programs that may offer many fun options.

- **Get creative.**
  Let your child’s imagination soar. Turn everyday household items like cardboard tubes into rockets or old socks into hand puppets.

Our mission is to ensure that all young people in America regardless of their background, income or zip code, can participate in, and benefit from high-quality summer learning experiences every year.