

Keep Reading & Growing All Summer!

These tips can help your student hold on to (& even build on) the progress they made this year toward becoming a confident reader!

- 📖 Read, read, read! Read to your student & let your student read to you. Some every day if you can!
- 📖 Alternating pages can be a great way to model good reading & encourage reading practice.
- 📖 **Books are wonderful**, of course, but words are everywhere; read recipes, signs, game directions, etc. Listen to favorite songs with the lyrics printed out. Would a relative act as a pen pal? Notice & take advantage of the endless opportunities to talk about letters/sounds & to read!
- 📖 Occasionally stop to sound out or discuss the meaning of difficult words. Ask questions to check & promote understanding (before, during, & after: "what will/did happen?").
- 📖 Allow choice. It's summer. Words are words. Not all reading has to be great literature. Wander kids' section in the library or bookstore. Let your student peruse...& choose.
- 📖 Play games with words. Think of rhymes. See who can write the most words that end in "an" or "it." Play this easy car game: start with a simple word & take turns thinking of a new one alternating between one that "starts like" or "ends like" the previous word.
- 📖 Get a notebook or journal. Make a page for each book/reading & have your student give it a rating, draw something that happened in/represents it, pick out a new word from it, etc.
- 📖 Check out summer reading programs:
 - 📖 The local library offers a summer reading program that allows kids to win small prizes for the books they read. Last year, there was a game board with reading activities to try.
 - 📖 Barnes & Noble gives a free book to students who complete their summer reading form.
 - 📖 One Minute Reader Home (<https://oneminutereader.com>) is a web-based program with audio-supported, short nonfiction stories about a wide variety of interesting topics that students work through independently. (Though students can do it independently, it can be even more powerful when parents participate a bit! Ask your student to read mastered stories to you.)
- 📖 Offer your own summer reading program.
You know what motivates your student. What would be motivating?
How many books/reading activities are reasonable in exchange for that reward?
Can you frame it as a challenge? Consider a competition—like who can read the most books (properly weighted for ability, of course!).

Happy Reading!

