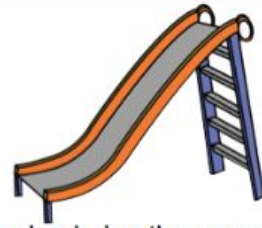


Tips for Preventing the Summer Slide



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer lose up to 2 months of reading performance. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so that by the time a child enters middle school he/she may be 2 1/2 years behind! All children, whether from low, middle or upper income families, may fall victim to the "summer slide" if not provided with summer reading opportunities. So how do we prevent the summer slide-or even accelerate reading growth? Here are a few ideas:

1 Visit your local library! Help your child find "right fit" books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child. Open the book to a page with many words. Have your child begin reading the text. Hold up a finger for each word he/she does not know. If you have 4 or 5 fingers up, the text may be too difficult for your child to read independently. Feel free to still check out the book! It just may be a book you want to read with your child.

2 Be sure your child reads at least 20 minutes a day. According to research, a child who reads only 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of sixth grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one of your child's top priorities, you may need to set up an incentive program.

3 Set a good example. When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book or a newspaper article, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.

4 Read to your child. When you read to your child, he/she hears the rhythm of language. Be sure to read with expression! Changing your voice for different characters and increasing your volume during exciting parts are only a few ways to keep children engaged.

5 Read with your child –explore different types of reading such as poetry. For our little ones, poetry is a great way to improve phonemic awareness skills as poetry often incorporates rhyme. For our older children, poetry is a means of improving fluency.

6 Read for different purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.

7 Play games with words. Commercial games such as Apples to Apples improves vocabulary. You can easily turn a game of hopscotch or 4 square into a game that incorporates learning letters or sight words. Be sure to check out the "8 Super Summer Sight Word Activities" on the Make, Take & Teach blog.

8 If you have access to an iPad, there are tons of interactive books and apps that address phonics and early reading skills. There are also many websites that offer free reading related games.

Have a happy and healthy summer! Be sure to read, read and read some more! Not only can we prevent the summer slide, we can accelerate reading growth.



Read online at Tumblebooks for free:

<http://www.tumblebooklibrary.com>

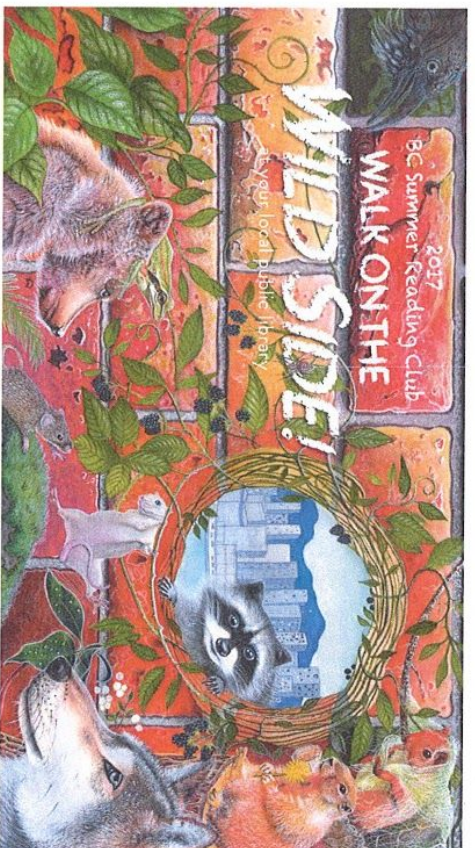
Username: tillicumsd61 **Password:** books

Visit our summer reading site:

<https://sites.google.com/sd61learn.ca/torquay-tillicum-reads/home> or <https://goo.gl/c2rrxJ>

Look at the GVPL Website for free Activities:

<https://gvpl.ca/audiences/kids-and-tweens>



WALK ON THE WILD SIDE!

Summer Reading Club for kids 12 and under

Take a walk on the wild side with GVPL's Summer Reading Club! Whether you're reading at home or on holidays, you can track your daily reading on your reading record and enjoy weekly incentives along the way. Staying in town? GVPL offers free library programs at branches throughout Greater Victoria.

Summer Reading Club program guide: available mid-June.

Registration for programs begins June 29 at gvpl.ca or 250-940-4875.

Self-paced reading records available starting June 29.

How Summer Reading Club Works

Summer Reading Club is a self-paced program that encourages children to read (or be read to) throughout the summer.

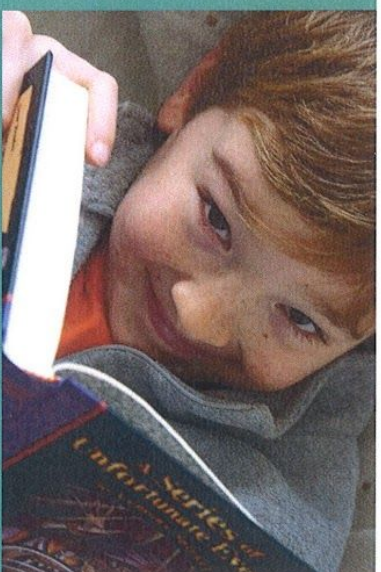
Step 1: Visit any branch of the Greater Victoria Public Library and pick up a reading record.

Step 2: Read for a minimum of 20 minutes every day.

Step 3: Each day, write down one thing you've read on your reading record – just use one line per day so you don't run out of room before the end of the summer.

Step 4: After you've read for seven days, visit the library and collect your weekly prize.

Step 5: Repeat steps 2 to 4. Keep up the great work!



GRADES 2-4

SUMMER

Reading Buddies

DOES YOUR CHILD NEED HELP WITH READING AND WRITING?

JULY 10 - AUGUST 18

Reading Buddies matches students with a volunteer teen Big Buddy for a one-week program of reading practice and literacy-based activities. Available in English and French. Register at gvpl.ca or call 250-940-GVPL (4875) for more information. Registration begins June 29. Maximum two sessions per child during the summer.

English Little Buddies:

2:00-3:00 pm OR 3:30-4:30 pm



July 10-14 Esquimalt Branch / Nellie McCClung Branch

July 17-21 Bruce Hutchison Branch / Saanich Centennial Branch

July 24-28 Central Branch / Juan de Fuca Branch

July 31-August 4 Oak Bay Branch / Nellie McCClung Branch

August 8-11 Central Saanich Branch / Juan de Fuca Branch

August 14-18 Nellie McCClung Branch / Saanich Centennial Branch

French Little Buddies

July 31-August 4 Nellie McCClung Branch 3:30-4:30 pm



gvpl.ca