

# SUMMER SLIDE

**When kids don't read over the summer, they fall behind. WAY behind!**

Without continued learning over the summer, your child is at risk of being as much as 3 grade levels behind their classmates by the end of 5<sup>th</sup> grade. **Summer reading is crucial to the success of every child's future!**

The most important things to remember when it comes to summer reading are . . .

- 📖 **Access to books and free choice:** Access to books is #1 in helping children combat the summer slide. Public libraries have a ton of free resources, activities (and of course books!) for both you and your child. It is important to let your child have free choice about what they choose to read. If your child isn't sure what they like, ask the librarian for help. For example, if your child likes trucks, scary stories, and dogs, ask the librarian for book recommendations based on those 3 things.
- 📖 **Time spent reading together:** Parents who read frequently are 6 times more likely to have kids who enjoy reading. Take some time to check out your own books at the library or read with your child. Kids of all ages love hearing stories from their parents!
- 📖 **Focus on the FUN:** Parents must have a positive attitude and view reading as fun so that kids will feel the same way. Summer is a great time to focus on reading just for fun! The more fun kids have reading, the more they will read which makes them a better reader and ready for the new school year.

Thankfully, reading is fun and there are many free and easy ways to keep children engaged over the summer! **Click on our favorites listed below!**



MAKING  
— IT —  
BETTER

[HISD's recommended reading lists by grade level.](#)

[Monthly calendars by age level for daily fun reading activities.](#)

[15 ways to find 15 minutes of reading a day!](#)

[FREE online reading activities for kids through the Houston Public Libraries.](#)

[Sign up May 9th, 2016 to participate in a summer reading challenge.](#)

**SCROLL DOWN FOR MORE LINKS TO EXCITING READING ACTIVITIES AND FAMILY RESOURCES**

# FAMILY RESOURCES

CLICK ON THE LINKS FOR MORE INFORMATION

## SUMMER READING

[Free summer reading programs for babies, kids and adults.](#)

[Get a free book for participating in Barnes & Noble's Summer Reading Triathlon.](#)

[10 weeks of daily fun literacy activities.](#)

[Monthly calendars for daily fun reading activities.](#)

[8-week calendar of daily fun reading activities.](#)

[Easy ways to nurture your child's brain development.](#)

## FAMILY FUN IN HOUSTON

[Fun things to do in Houston with kids.](#)

[A blog with discounts, free activities, and more!](#)

[FREE family resources, summer camps, giveaways, and activities to do around Houston.](#)

[FREE youth sports activities.](#)

[Camps, childcare, and sports activities.](#)

[A comprehensive list of summer camps offered in the Houston area.](#)

[Library events calendar. Enter your zip code to find the library closest to you.](#)

[Library story times and toddler activities.](#)

## PARENT EDUCATION RESOURCES

[A list of adult classes such as GED prep, ESL, and family literacy.](#)

[The importance of reading aloud.](#)

[Adult ESL classes.](#)

[Parent education programs in the Houston area.](#)

## SOCIAL SERVICES

[West Houston Assistance Ministries provides food, financial and employment assistance to families in need.](#)

[The Food Bank provides food and other services to families in need.](#)

[A United Way list of the top requested services in Houston.](#)