

Top 10 Summer Activities

Tips & Ideas for Elementary Parents

Summer break is a time for relaxation, play, and exploration. Summer also presents additional time and opportunities for some fun learning activities. Here are 10 ways you can help your child continue developing the skills they learned this year, while also having lots of fun this summer.

Promote summer reading

Reading is a great summer activity, and it is an excellent time for children to improve their reading skills. Keep summer reading fun, and find ways to encourage your child to read throughout the summer months.



- 1. Visit the library.** Check your local library to see if they have a summer reading program for kids. Make weekly visits to the library to pick out new books together.
- 2. Read together.** Choose a book series to work through together. Take turns reading pages or chapters to one another.
- 3. Use online resources.** Check out online reading programs. For example, Scholastic has a free summer reading program for kids.
- 4. Make reading a priority in your home.** Have family reading time when everyone in the family reads something. Be a good role model and do some summer reading yourself!

Keep math skills sharp

Unlike reading, which can easily be done for fun over the summer, it's more difficult to incorporate math activities into your child's summer routine. Here are some ways you can help keep your child's math skills sharp.



- 5. Quiz on the go.** Practice addition, subtraction, and multiplication facts while out running errands and on road trips.
- 6. Have your child help with real-world problems.** For example, have your child help you take measurements for a home project or ask your child to help you figure out which grocery items are the best value.
- 7. Tap into your child's interests.** If your child likes sports, study the stats of a favorite player. If your child likes to cook, have them help measure ingredients for a recipe.
- 8. Play games.** Games involving counting or scoring are fun ways to build math skills. There are also some excellent math apps for children who like playing games online.

Have fun!

Summer isn't all about keeping up on schoolwork. Don't forget to have fun!

- 9. Plan family outings.** Take a hike in the woods. Visit museums, aquariums, and zoos.
- 10. Spend time together.** Ride bikes, plant a garden, fly a kite, have a picnic, bake cookies, have a dance party, paint rocks, go swimming, make sidewalk chalk drawings. *Most of all, enjoy this special time with your child!*