

Tips and Tricks for Summer Learning at Home

Community support continues to be essential in this time of uncertainty. It is especially important to let parents know they are not alone in supporting their children with activities at home during the summer months. Follow these tips and supports provided by parents and educators on occupying students who are at home without camps and other activities for the summer.

Supporting students at home

- Focus on the whole child – not necessarily on academics over the summer.
- Ask your child how they like to learn and offer different options. Many older students like to manage their day differently than a typical school day structure. Provide some structure but allow for options when completing work tasks.
- Reach out to your child’s current teacher and ask for recommendations about how to reassure your child about returning to school.
- Reach out to your child’s school or other parents whose children attend your school to connect with a mentor for your child. This will provide your child with another student’s perspective about what to expect at the next grade level/school year as well as having someone to talk with about their excitement and fears.
- Talk honestly about the positive aspects of the past several months at home. Reassure your child that we will eventually be returning to school even though there will be changes in how that looks. Build your child’s self-esteem by talking about the positives of being home with family,
- Encourage children to think creatively about the problems they need to solve.
- Stay connected with close friends and family that attend your child’s school as much as possible.
- Ask your child’s current teacher if it’s possible to create a virtual “sneak-a-peek” of their future classroom.

Things to remember

- All students will have gaps when they return in the fall – schools are planning for this.
- Everyone has struggled with this situation. Try to celebrate what your family would typically do during the summer as much as possible.
- Keep your summer schedule as flexible as possible.
- Help ensure your child’s feeling of belonging: **KUPS**

Have you filled your child’s KUP today?

1. **K**ind words
2. **U**nconditional Love
3. **P**atience
4. **S**afe

Resources educators recommend

Free Resources

- Khan Academy
- Xtramath
- Freckle (also has an ELA component)
- ABCYA
- NewsELA (current event and other articles available by level and with comprehension questions)
- ReadWorks (articles available by level and with comprehension and vocabulary questions)
- Epic!
- GoNoodle

Paid resources with some free trials available

- ABCMouse
- Lexia
- RAZKids
- SpellingCity/Vocabulary City

