

## **Summer Tips**

Parents often ask at their end-of-the-year meetings for ideas and ways to help their child maintain their academic and personal development over the summer. We all stress the importance of doing things that continue to maintain skills and promote academic growth. The summer provides the unique opportunity for families to relax, create different routines and perhaps take a vacation or visit family or friends. The summer can also be used to support your child's growth, inquiry, and help develop his/her interests.

Listed below are some ideas that can be used to reinforce academic skills and minimize regression...

### **Reading Activities**

- ❖ Always take books, magazines, or newspapers with you because these are all important reading experiences for children.
- ❖ Go to the library and experience a book together.
- ❖ Join the library's Summer Book Club.
- ❖ Select a recipe, model, or a "How To" project to complete together; have your child restate the sequence of events as you complete the activity.
- ❖ Establish a specific daily reading hour at home where all family members are reading together instead of watching TV.
- ❖ Read together or read aloud to your child.
- ❖ Read about places you may be traveling to or places where you are visiting people.
- ❖ Summer is the time to read about topics we enjoy.
- ❖ Use books on tape or CD to help your child develop their reading fluency, which is critical.

### **Writing Activities**

- ❖ Keep a summer journal where your child can write or draw about different places and events and highlights.
- ❖ Start a personal diary.
- ❖ Use photos to create an experiential book with captions.
- ❖ Write thank you notes to family and friends.
- ❖ Write letters or emails to relatives, friends and teachers.
- ❖ Write shopping and "To Do" lists together.

### **Math Activities**

- ❖ Use recipes to reinforce measurement.
- ❖ Create patterns with objects, i.e., beaded necklace.
- ❖ Discuss the shapes all around us in the real world.
- ❖ Reinforce money skills and coins when shopping and going out to eat.
- ❖ Use literature, picture books, which relate to math topics. Suggestions include: Five Little Monkeys Jumping on the Bed, The Doorbell Rang, One Hundred Hungry Ants, How Much Is a Million?, Anno's Counting Jar.
- ❖ Practice using the clock.

Have a wonderful summer!!!!