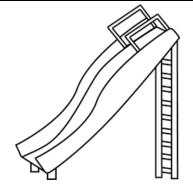
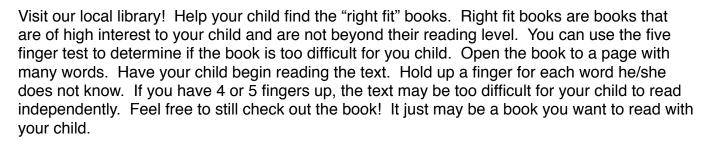
## Tips for Preventing the

## Summer Stide



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer can lose up to 2 months of reading performance. Here are a few ideas to help prevent that "summer slide."



- 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 a day outside of school will learn 1.800.000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one our your child's top priorities, you may want to set up an incentive program.
- 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.
- 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.
- 2345 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.
  - Read for different purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.
- Play games with words. You can easily turn a game of hopscotch or 4 square into a game that incorporates learning letters or sight words.
- If you have access to an iPad or computer, 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.