

Books Help Turn the Pages of Summer

Summer is right around the corner but that is no reason to stop encouraging your teen to read. In fact, research findings indicate two very important things to keep in mind.

- Students who don't read can lose up to three months of reading achievement over the summer.
- Having a variety of experiences helps readers understand new information when they read.

Plan to combine rich experiences and interesting reading for your teen this summer.

Take summer field trips: Go to the zoo, the aquarium, a sports event, a museum, or a historical landmark. Go on a hike or visit a natural attraction in your area. When you're at home, use the web to take a virtual field trip or watch television programs on the History Channel or National Geographic.

Talk about it: Talk about the plants and animals you see, the rules of the game, the history of your town, or other new things you learned. Ask questions that get your teen to talk: "If you could be one of those animals...?" or "Why do you think...?"

Follow up with a book: Find out what interests your teen and visit the library to get more information. Check out books about butterflies or baseball players or whatever caught your child's attention. Encourage him or her with comments like "That was cool to see the inside of a computer at the museum today. Let's learn more about that."



Pair summer experiences with books.

Don't forget to visit the FCPS Suggested Summer Reading List at
<http://www.fcps.edu/DIS/readlist/index.htm>