

Summer Learning for your Rising First Grader!

“Write the Day Away” by keeping a journal throughout the summer of things you do. Illustrate a picture of your time at the pool, at the beach, at a family member’s house, or just a normal day at home, and write a sentence or two about what you did at those places. Make it a goal to write once a week, and feel free to use the extra pages in your kindergarten writing journal. Use the attached smiley sentence poster to help you check your writing!

Bring this to the first day of first grade. We'll share our stories together and get ready to make this a weekly habit as writers.

Sharpen math and phonics skills through play. See the attached list of games, many of which were taught in kindergarten.

Reinforce basic phonics and math concepts throughout daily routines. Look for snap words and spelling patterns learned in kindergarten when you're out and about. Count how many stuffed animals or pretzels you have. How many do you have when you add one or take away one? Point out numbers when you drive, or in the grocery store. Opportunities to read and do math are everywhere!

Read, Read, Read! Establish a daily habit of reading together. Choose a variety of books to read; choose ones your child can read by themselves as well as books you can read to your child. Children can gain reading proficiency (rather than lose) when they practice during the summer.

Recommended books:

1. *Alexander and the Terrible, Horrible, No Good, Very Bad Day* by Judith Viorst
2. *Franklin Rides a Bike* by Paulette Bourgeois, Brenda Clark (illus.)
3. *The Listening Walk* by Paul Showers
4. *Quick as a Cricket* by Audrey Wood, Don Wood (illus.)
5. *Ten Apples Up on Top!* by Theodore LeSieg (Dr. Seuss), Roy McKie (illus.)
6. *Franklin* series by Paulette Bourgeois (especially, *Franklin Tells a Fib*, *Franklin is Messy*, *Franklin is Bossy*, *Hurry Up, Franklin*, etc.)
7. *Don't Let Pigeon Drive the Bus!* by Mo Willems
8. *Dragons Love Tacos* by Adam Rubin
9. *The Story of Ferdinand* by Munro Leaf
10. *Stone Soup* by Ann McGovern

Join the Summer Reading Club at your local library online or in person when possible. Make library visits a predictable event. Meet with friends at book stores making reading a natural part of your family culture. Bring books to the park and tell your own "stories" around the table.

As you read, allow books to come to life by bringing them with you everywhere you go and interacting with them. Talk about books at the park, at the beach, at the dinner table. Ask your child to retell what happened in a story you just finished reading. Act out scenes from stories and let their imaginations wander. Write about the story in the journal your child is keeping. Get excited about reading stories!

Keep reading the decodable book read in kindergarten at

<https://halfpintkids.com/>

Summer Phonics Practice

Segmentation (without letters)

- Squeeze a squishy ball to count sounds or syllables
- Pop-it to pop sounds/syllables
- Touch shoulder, elbow, fingertips to break apart sounds in words or parts of words
- Elkonin boxes (worksheet with boxes to count sounds) with counters, pennies, Cheerios, PlayDoh balls, etc. to press down
- Pipe cleaner with beads to move as you say sounds

Segmentation (with letters)

- Magna tiles (write 1 sound on each tile, Lego, or other plastic building tool that a dry erase marker can be used on; tiles can have more than one letter if the letters work together to make one sound like "ch" and "ee.")
- Write words into sand, shaving cream, or Play Doh
- Air or carpet "writing"
- "Write" (trace with finger) on glitter paper or sandpaper (anything with a gritty texture)
- Magnetic letters
- Play tic tac toe with words instead of X's and O's
- Rock paper scissors to spell a snap word (say t-h-e spells "the" instead of saying "rock, paper, scissors" as you play)

Blending

- Memory match (make a matching game by dictating words to be written on cards, make 2 sets to play matching game)
- Roll and read/write (use paper sent home)
- Read Half Pint decodable books
- Cup guessing game- put words or letters in front of a cup, student has to say the word or letter, lift up the cup to see if it's the one holding the mystery object

Spelling Patterns to Practice

Spelling Patterns

- QU
- Short vowel + CK
- Blends (like SP, GL)
- Digraphs SH, CH, TH (voiced and unvoiced), WH, PH
- Open door syllable: vowel says its name if it's the last sound in a syllable
- Y as a vowel: Long I sound in a 1 syllable word, Long E sound in multisyllabic
- "King of ING"
- FLOSS (double letter after a short vowel if the word ends in f, l, s, or z)
- Plural -S and -ES
- Magic E
- Bossy R (sounds of R- controlled vowels AR/OR/ER,IR,UR)