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Summer Learning Resources

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Principal's Bulletin

June 12, 2017

Summer Learning

Dear Parents,

As the end of the school year approaches, families often ask how to support student learning over the summer. Already, you are planning summer experiences that build knowledge, spark curiosity about the world, and help your child gain confidence. Riding bikes, hiking, visiting the public library, playing in the neighborhood, attending summer camp, playing board games as a family, and traveling outside of our city build knowledge and a sense of wonder. Reading books and discussing them together also develops rich language skills and fosters a love of literacy. In addition, the more relaxed summer schedule can be a wonderful time to build independence and confidence at all ages as children learn new skills such as tying shoes, and how to contribute to family chores.

In addition to all of that, if you are seeking tools to boost or just keep up academic skills, **[a list of resources and links are provided below](#)**. Also, you may want to check the list of Best Apps recommended by [Common Sense Media](#).

I wish you a wonderful summer full of new memories and time with your family!

Sincerely,

Pam Jasso, Principal
pjasso@scsdk8.org

Dates to Remember

Monday, June 12	Monday Morning Assembly, 8:25 Celebration of our Parking Lot & Crossing Guard Volunteers
	PTA Meeting, 8:35, Staff Room
	PlayPod Meeting
Wednesday, June 14	Last Day of School

Wednesday, August 23

First Day of School

Thursday, August 31

Back to School Night

Summer Learning Resources

San Carlos School District Book List - Reading at Your Child's Level

<https://goo.gl/8VOEEp>

When a child reads at his/her "just right level," fluency, vocabulary and comprehension soar! Check your child's report card for an "independent reading level" and then find titles on this list to match. We recommend a balance between fiction and non-fiction.

Epic!

<https://www.getepic.com/>

Digital library of 25,000 books and videos to help kids read, learn and explore their interests. Includes Summer Reading Lists by age and subject. (Note: A summer subscription costs \$1)

Sight Words by Grade Level

from The Reading and Writing Project at Teachers College, Columbia University.

Readers work towards mastery of these words over the course of the school year. If you'd like to get a jump start, practice just a handful at a time so that your child feels successful and gains confidence. When students can recognize these words instantly, they are able to read more fluently and focus on comprehension.

[Kinder List](#)

[1st Grade List A \(Same as K list\)](#)

[1st Grade and 2nd Grade List B](#)

[1st Grade and 2nd Grade List C](#)

[1st Grade and 2nd Grade List D](#)

Lexia Reading Core 5 (Grades K-4)

<http://www.lexiacore5.com/>

This program builds foundational skills in reading. Accounts were provided to children who worked with Mrs. Moyer or Mrs. Naumowicz. Please email Mrs. Moyer (lmoyer@scsdk8.org) or Mrs. Naumowicz (lnaumowicz@scsdk8.org) if you need another copy.

National Geographic Kids

<http://kids.nationalgeographic.com/>

Learn about the world with articles, games, maps and more!

RAZ Kids Reading (Grades K-4)

<http://www.raz-kids.com/main/Login>

Access a leveled library to build fluency and comprehension skills. Please check in with your child's teacher if you need log-in information (for participating classes).

Summer Learning Challenge 2017 at the San Carlos Library

<http://summerlearners.org/>

Dive into books this summer at the San Carlos Library! Get a free book when you sign up and then another book once they have completed logs. Enter weekly drawings for great prizes. The more you visit, the better your chances to win. One lucky participant will also be eligible to win a \$1000 scholarship for college. Visit the website to see all the great prizes you can win!

Time for Kids (Grades 2-4)

<http://www.timeforkids.com/>

A kid-friendly version of Time Magazine. Short informational articles about world events.

Book Creator (Grades K-4)

<http://www.redjumper.net/bookcreator/>

This free iPad app empowers children to create and publish their own e-books! Children take photos and add text to their books, making this a motivating summer journaling tool.

Dance Mat Typing (Grades 2-3)

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/guides/z3c6tfr>

"You start by learning the home row keys. Each stage builds on previous lessons, introducing new letters as you progress. You'll soon be touch typing like an expert! At the end of each level you can test your typing speed and get a fun reward."

Typing Club (Grade 3 and 4)

<https://scsdk8.typingclub.com/>

Students log-in using Google accounts. Please ask your child's teacher if you need another copy.

Addition Fact Practice

https://drive.google.com/file/d/0B_wlnPzXZBUZVHJBcUdEUIRLdnc/view

A list of recommended games for keeping addition facts fresh.

Scratch Jr. (Grades K-1)

<https://www.scratchjr.org/>

"Scratch Jr. is an introductory programming language that enables young children (ages 5-7) to create their own interactive stories and games. Children snap together graphical programming blocks to make characters move, jump, dance, and sing. Children can modify characters in the paint editor, add their own voices and sounds, even insert photos of themselves -- then use the programming blocks to make their characters come to life."

Scratch! (Grades 2-4)

<http://scratch.mit.edu/parents/>

"Scratch is a programming language and an online community where children can program and share interactive media such as stories, games, and animation with people from all over the world. As children create with Scratch, they learn to think creatively, work collaboratively, and reason systematically. Scratch is designed and maintained by the Lifelong Kindergarten group at the MIT Media Lab."

XtraMath (Grades 2-4)

<http://xtramath.org/>

Keep math facts fresh with this free resource that builds fluency and tracks progress. Students who know their facts feel confident in math! Incoming third and fourth graders, this is a great tool for you!

Youcubed Math (Grades K-4)

<http://www.youcubed.org/>

Created by Stanford professor and leader in mathematics education, Jo Boaler, this resource provides engaging tools for both kids and parents. Check out the math apps section under "Ideas and Tasks" which emphasizes visual and conceptual problem-solving strategies.

ABCya! (Grades K-4)

www.abcya.com

Free educational computer games and mobile apps with a wide-range of subject areas as well as skill-levels.

NASA's Climate Kids (Grades 2-4)

<https://climatekids.nasa.gov>

Articles, activities, and games crafted by NASA in order to teach kids about the Earth and what keeps it going!

NASA's Solar System Explorer (Grades K-4)

<https://solarsystem.nasa.gov/kids/index.cfm>

Interactive map of space with articles, activities, and games included.

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For questions or comments regarding anything in this Principal's Bulletin, please contact [Pamela Jasso](#).

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