

KIEL/SISCO SCHOOL SUMMER READING GUIDE

Research shows that children lose one to three months of learning every summer. Prevent this summer learning loss by getting your children “revved up” for reading! According to Richard Allington, Professor of Education at the University of Tennessee and President of the International Reading Association, *“The loss is typically one of several months on standardized reading tests. But such small losses accumulate to substantial losses over time. On the other hand, children who read several books during the summer months experience no such loss and may actually find their scores on standardized tests improve a bit. Reading over the summer is crucial to your child’s success in school. Studies show that kids who don’t read lose ground in the fall.”*

Research says:

1. It’s fundamental. Kids who don’t read over the summer move in the wrong direction...they fall back to the reading level they were at as much as three months before.
2. It keeps kids on track. Don’t scoff at the reading for pizza or trinkets at the public library. Kids who take part in summer reading programs are less likely to be held back.
3. It doesn’t take much. Let these numbers be your mantra...just 4 or 5 books are enough to stave off losses.

(Quoted from Instructor May/June 2006, pages 39 and 65)

Some great websites to gain additional information and ideas are as follows:

www.rif.org (Reading is Fundamental)

<http://streetcat.bankstreet.edu> (Bank Street College)

www.ala.org This section of the American Library Association (ALA) website lists award-winning books, authors and illustrators.

www.reading.org International Reading Association Children’s Book Council has both book lists of Children’s Choices and Teacher’s Choices

<http://kids.nypl.org> This is the website of the New York Public Library. It lists “100 Picture Books Everyone Should Know”.

www.bankstreetbooks.com This is the official site of the renowned and respected Bank Street College of Education Book Store. The Children’s Book Committee at Bank Street College reviews over 4,000 titles each year for accuracy and literary qualities and considers their emotional impact on children. It chooses the best 600 books, both fiction and nonfiction, which it lists according to age and category. This list can be ordered online at the website.

Another great information guide for leveled books can be found at:

<http://src.scholastic.com>. Suggested range of levels for Guided Reading and Grade levels:

Kindergarten (1st grade in September): Levels B, C, D, E

Grade 1 (2nd grade in September): Levels: G, H, I, J, K

Grade 2 (3rd grade in September): Levels: K, L, M, N

The Kinnelon Public Library also offers a great Summer Reading Program. Its worth checking into!

The long, lazy days of summer can take you to a million great places by sinking your toes into some great books!