

Did you know...



During the summer our schedules change and routines are sometimes harder to keep. It is important to keep reading, talking, singing, writing, and playing with your young child so their early literacy skills can continue to grow. If you have older children, it is good practice for them to read to your younger child and helps develop a bond between them. Look for programs at your library or in the community that will be fun and provide opportunities for your preschooler to learn.

Every hero has a story!



Most Idaho libraries offer summer reading programs, and many offer programs in which your child can earn prizes by reading with you. The national summer reading theme this year is all about heroes— what better way to be your little one's hero than reading with her every day?!



Here's how...

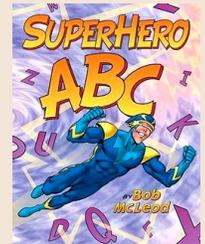


- ❖ Keep books in your purse, car, and around the house for easy access to reading for your child.
- ❖ Get your child (or family) a library card at your local public library. It's free for most people and some libraries offer free summer cards for those who live out of district.
- ❖ Let your child pick out books they enjoy, even if you have to read them over and over! When children choose books they enjoy, they learn to love reading and become better readers in school.

Read



Superhero ABC, by Bob McLeod



Silly and zany, and armed with the most unusual skills, these heroes are out to save the world—one letter at a time! Each time you read this book with your child you'll find new things to point out and enjoy.

Author Bob McLeod has illustrated comic books for both Marvel and DC Comics. This is his first children's book.

Visit his *Superhero ABC* website for bookmarks, mazes, and coloring pages with your favorite heroes.

www.bobmcLeod.com/activities.html

Choosing Books



Dex, Heart of a Hero, by Caralyn Buehner

Ninja! by Arree Chung

Eliot Jones, Midnight Superhero, by Anne Cottringer

Hero Dad, by Melinda Hardin

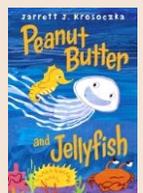
Ladybug Girl, by David Soman and Jacky Davis

Firefighters A to Z, by Chris Demarest

Froggy Goes to the Doctor, by Jonathan London

Skippyjon Jones, by Judy Schachner

Peanut Butter and Jellyfish, by Jarrett Krosoczka



Talk



Summer time can be a challenge for families when children's schedules change and they have more free time. Talk with your child about what they would like to do and learn, and make a list or calendar so you can mark them off as you do them. Do they like to cook and could help you prepare meals? Would they like to learn to swim? Are there places around your community that are free or low-cost that you could take day trips to? Do they want to learn to tie their shoe laces? Summer should be a time of fun and relaxation, but it is also a valuable time for exploration and learning.

Write



Sit with your child and talk about superhero traits he would like to have, and why. Make a list of these traits and talk about how he could get some of them. Example: "I want to be fast like Flash." Make a plan to practice running every day to get faster.

Play



Simon Says (or use a superhero name)

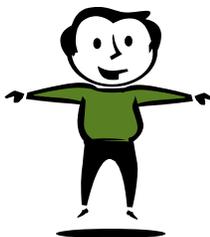
(helps with listening skills, following directions, vocabulary, and being a good sport)

For three or more players

One person is Simon (or the superhero's name) and tells the people playing the game what to do by saying something like, "Simon says jump."

They continue to give directions, but if they say "Jump" without saying "Simon Says" and the person does it, they are out of the game.

Continue until everyone is out or your child loses interest.



Sing



Ten Little Firefighters

(make up actions to words)

Ten little firefighters standing in a row,

The fire bell rings,

Down the pole they go.

Ten little firefighters riding on the truck,

The siren squeals,

The traffic is stuck.

Ten little firefighters putting out the fire,

The water rushes,

The ladder must go higher.

Ten little firefighters turning all about,

The engine roars,

All the fire is out.



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At your library...



You can read hundreds of free online books with your child by visiting your local library's website and clicking on TumbleBooks™.

