



Did you know...



During the summer, schedules change and routines are sometimes harder to keep. It is important to keep reading, talking, singing, writing, and playing with your child so their early literacy skills continue to grow. Studies show that children who do not keep their reading routines over the summer can *lose* many of the skills they developed during the school year. Look for programs at your library or in the community that will be fun and provide opportunities for your kindergartner to learn.

Be sure to sign up for summer reading at the library, where prizes can be earned for reading with your child. Most libraries offer storytimes, and you can meet other parents and let your child play. This year's theme is "A Universe of Stories."

Library programs are free!



Here's how...



- ✦ Choose a quiet spot for you and your child to read aloud 15 – 20 minutes each day.
- ✦ Take books and writing supplies with you when you leave home so that your child can read and write wherever you go.
- ✦ Get your child (or family) a library card at your local public library. It's free for most people. Some libraries offer free summer cards for those who live out of the taxing district.
- ✦ Let your child pick out books they enjoy, even if you have to read the same books over and over. When children choose books they enjoy, they love to learn reading and become better readers when they start school.
- ✦ Check out audiobooks from the library (see page 2).

Read

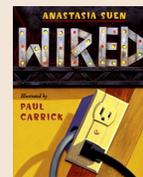


"Man on the Moon" by Anastasia Suen



It was 1969 and no one had ever set foot on the moon. Some said it couldn't be done. But astronauts Mike Collins, Buzz Aldrin, and Neil Armstrong were going to try . . . Here in picture book format is the amazing true story of the first moon landing, when a man set foot on an unexplored world and showed us that the boundaries of our world were limitless.

Also by Anastasia Suen:



Choose Books



"A Universe of Stories" to explore this summer:

"If You Decide to Go to the Moon" by Faith McNulty

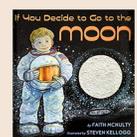
"The Moon Book" by Gail Gibbons

"Mousetronaut" by Mark Kelly

"Life on Mars" by Jon Agee

"Astronaut Handbook" by Meghan McCarthy

"On the Launchpad: A Counting Book about Rockets" by Michael Dahl



Talk



Some kindergarteners begin reading independently at this time of year. Though it is important for your child to maintain some reading practice over the summer, it is also very important that they continue to have stories read to them. Read aloud with your child every day, and play audiobooks so your child can listen to stories in the car, during “toes up” time, or when you are not able to read aloud yourself. Children learn a lot about reading by listening, especially about how words and phrasing sound (fluency). Ask your child questions about the stories they are listening to.

Write



After reading a book together, let your kindergartener draw something from the story. Ask her to tell you about it and encourage her to write a few words on the drawing. Let her write



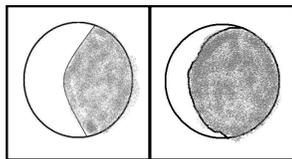
down the letters she hears, rather than expecting her to spell everything correctly.



Play



Chart the phases of the moon. Using a calendar or notebook, trace a circle using a quarter or milk cap.



Go outside each night with your child and look at the moon. Help your child color in the circle to match what you see. Be sure to include the date and time.

Visit the Farmer's Almanac website to see the phases of the moon in your town.

www.almanac4kids.com/sky/thismonth.php

This site also has lots of moon information and trivia!

Sing



We're Flying to the Moon

(To the tune of “Farmer in the Dell”)

We're flying to the moon,
We're flying to the moon.
Blast off away we go,
We're flying to the moon.

Other verses:

We're going in a spacecraft...
We're walking out in space...
We're landing on the moon...
We're collecting moon rocks...
We're flying back to Earth...
We're landing on the Earth...



To hear the tune, go to: <https://bussongs.com/songs/the-farmer-in-the-dell>

At your library...



Be sure to check your library's website and/or Facebook page for special summer activities in the library and out in the community!