

## 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 library programs, where prizes can be earned for reading and learning with your child. Most Idaho public libraries offer a summer program, and 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.
- ❖ Check out audiobooks from the library. Children learn a lot about reading by listening, especially about how words and phrases sound (fluency).

## Read



### ***Baby Orca*, by Mary Batten**



Baby orca is a very big baby! She weighs four hundred pounds and lives in the cold waters of the Pacific Ocean with her family. Baby orca spends her days playing with friends, napping, and swimming. Follow baby orca as she learns to swim, hunt, and even “talk” with her family!

## Choose Books



This year many libraries will design summer programs around an ocean theme.



# OCEANS OF POSSIBILITIES™

### **More books about the ocean:**

*Beneath the Waves: Celebrating the Ocean Through Pictures, Poems, and Stories*, by Stephanie Drimmer

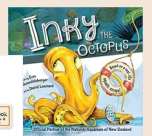
*Edward and Annie: A Penguin Adventure*, by Caryn Rivadeneira

*Inky the Octopus: The Official Story of One Brave Octopus' Escape*, by Erin Guendelsberger

*One Tiny Turtle*, by Nicola Davies

*Over in the Ocean in a Coral Reef*, by Marianne Berkes

*The Shark Book*, by Steve Jenkins



## Talk



Children are very curious about the world around them. They want to know about the weather, how things work, facts about animals, etc. Nonfiction, or information, books help children learn about the things that interest them.

Nonfiction books should have a lot of photos or drawings to help children see what they are reading about. If there are a lot of words on each page, you don't have to read every one. Read the main points on each page and then ask questions to see what your child is interested in.

Don't shy away from some of the higher level words that are often in nonfiction books. Your child needs to hear lots of different kinds of words in order to learn to read later on.

## Here's how...



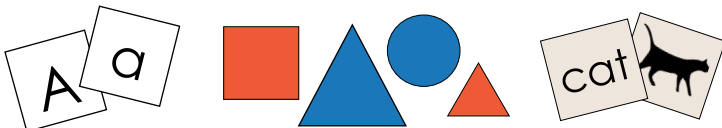
Go to your local library and check out books about the things your child is interested in. Whether it is oceans, dinosaurs, bugs, or bunnies, libraries can provide books that are just right for your child.

## Play



### Go Fishin' Matching Game

Tie a piece of string to a stick or straw, and then tie a magnet to the other end of the string. Make "fish" cards out of colored paper, magazines, old envelopes, cereal boxes, etc. Glue a paperclip to each "fish." You don't need to make fish shapes, any shape will do! Spread cards out on floor and let your child fish for matching pairs. You can make pairs for colors, letters, shapes, actual types of fish, numbers, or beginning words.



## Sing



### Slippery Fish

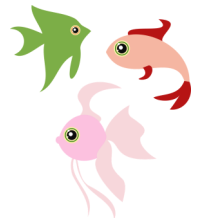
Slippery fish, slippery fish,  
Sliding through the water.  
Slippery fish, slippery fish,  
Gulp. Gulp. Gulp.  
Oh, no! I've been eaten by...

An octopus, an octopus,  
Squiggling through the water.  
An octopus, an octopus,  
Gulp. Gulp. Gulp.  
Oh, no! I've been eaten by...

*Repeat song with the following verses:*  
A tuna fish, a tuna fish, Flashing in the water.  
A great white shark, a great white shark,  
Lurking in the water.

A humongous whale, a humongous whale,  
Spouting through the water.  
A humongous whale, a humongous whale,  
Gulp. Gulp. Gulp.... Burp!  
Pardon me!

*Hear tune and see actions at*  
<https://youtu.be/0C9HS0lb4qI>



## 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!