



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.

Read



The Adventures of Beekle: The Unimaginary Friend by Dan Santat



This magical story begins on an island far away where an imaginary friend is born. He patiently waits his turn to be chosen by a real child, but when he is overlooked time and again, he sets off on an adventure to the busy city, where he finally meets his perfect match and, at long last, is given his special name.

Choose Books



This year many libraries will design their summer programs with an “adventure” theme. Here are some fun adventure books to look for at your library:

Explorers of the Wild by Cale Atkinson

The Greatest Adventure by Tony Piedra

The Hike by Alison Farrell

Inky's Great Escape by Casey Lyall

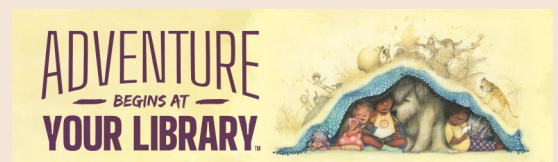
Journey by Aaron Becker

Jumanji by Chris Van Allsburg

Knight Owl by Christopher Denise

Nobody Likes a Goblin by Ben Hatke

Traction Man Is Here! by Mini Grey



Talk



Talk with your child about some of the adventures you have planned for the summer or tell them about some of your favorite childhood adventures.

Write



Help your child make a mini-magazine or “zine” about a real friend or an imaginary friend. Include the friend’s name on the cover; on the pages, include a photo or illustration and favorite foods, sports, activities, and more.

www.wikihow.com/Make-a-Zine



Play



Will You Be a Friend of Mine?

(To the tune of London Bridge Is Falling Down)

Choose two people to face each other with hands clasped together to make a bridge. The others walk under the bridge as you sing the first verse and continue circling around:

Will you be a friend of mine?
Friend of mine, friend of mine?
Will you be a friend of mine,
And play with me today?

On the second verse, bring hands down around person who is currently under the “bridge,” and sing:

Yes, I’ll be a friend of yours,
Friend of yours, friend of yours.
Yes, I’ll be a friend of yours,
And play with you today!

The person under the bridge then switches places with one of the bridge holders, and the game continues, repeating both verses.

See the London Bridge version of this game at <https://tinyurl.com/London-Bridge-game>

Sing



Make New Friends

Make new friends, but keep the old.
One is silver and the other is gold.

A circle is round; it has no end.
That's how long I want to be your friend.

A fire burns bright; it warms the heart.
We've been friends from the very start.

You help me, and I'll help you,
And together we will see it through.

Across the land; across the sea.
Friends forever we will always be.

Listen to the song at:

www.songsforteaching.com/folk/makenewfriends.php



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!