



AJUSD Title I Summer Learning Guide

Getting the Most Out of Summer!

Summer is a great time of the year. It's a time for family vacations, beating the heat in the swimming pool, and relaxing. But just because classes have ended doesn't mean that children can't keep learning and preserving those hard won skills they spent all year developing. Summer is an ideal time to learn in a more unstructured way and discover new interests.

To get the most out of the summer weeks, there are many community resources worth exploring. The Apache Junction library sponsors a reading challenge each year, encour-

aging children of all ages to keep reading throughout the summer months. The library has a wide selection of books, resources to support reading at home, and prizes for participating in the summer reading program.

Apache Junction Parks and Recreation offers a range of programs for children of all ages.

In addition, AJUSD has many resources that are available all year round to help students keep reading, practicing, and learning at home as well as at school.

We invite you to check out these

amazing resources, and use them to keep skills sharp all summer while having fun and making new discoveries. Keep reading to find out more about these resources.



Keep learning all summer long!!



Make it 5

It turns out that 5 is a magic number. According to researchers, 5 books is the minimum number of books children need to read during the summer to prevent a decline in reading achievement from Spring to Fall.

Your child has worked hard

all year to become a stronger reader. By continuing to read for fun during the summer months, your child can protect those hard-earned gains and be better prepared to start school in August.

Keep summer reading fun-

encourage children to read books that they find interesting. Make a special trip to the library, use the online resources listed in this newsletter, and keep an eye out for reading opportunities. You'll find that summer reading is a delight, not a chore!

Apache Junction USD

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Did you know...

- © The AJ Library summer reading program runs from May 27-July 26. Participation is free and readers of all ages can earn prizes
- © Summer is a great time to explore and discover new things. The AJ Public Library also has culture passes to great museums and destinations in the area (and they're free!!)

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Great online resources found at www.ajusd.org

Tumblebooks

What it is:

A collection of online story books, chapter books, nonfiction books, and graphic novels for pre-kindergarten-3rd grade children. This delightful interactive approach to reading lets children read along, with the text displayed on the screen and a narrator reading the story. After reading, children can take a quiz to see how much they remember, or explore the puzzles and games that come along with the book. It also includes a video

section- National Geographic videos are a great way to learn more about the world we live in. The search bar at the top will help you find more books and videos about topics that interest your child.

Tips to use this program:

- Be sure to link directly from the AJUSD Student Technology Portal (www.ajusd.org). Otherwise, the program will require a login to continue.

- Read along to books ranging from a kindergarten to third grade level,
- Be sure to encourage your child to read about topics and stories that are interesting to them.

- Have your child play the games & activities with the stories, and then take a quiz to see how high they can score!
- Ask your child questions about what they've read.



Tumblebook Cloud Jr. & Tumblebook Cloud

What it is:

In Tumblebook Cloud Jr. (designed for the 3rd-6th grade readers) and Tumblebook cloud (6th-12th grade), you will find a wide range of e-books including chapter books, audio books, children's classic stories, graphic novels, biographies, and more. You will also find videos about animals and nature, history, earth science, art and literature, etc. With this program you can turn a tablet or smart phone into a library full of books anywhere

you have an internet connection.

Tips to use this program:

- Link directly from AJUSD Student Technology Portal (see above)
- For children who struggle to read independently, check out the engaging audio books which will allow children to read along with the narrator.
- Graphic novels are another great avenue for both struggling readers and confident readers.

- Encourage children to watch videos from the video library to become "expert" on a topic. Ask them to share with you what they've discovered.

"Graphic novels are a great avenue for both struggling and confident readers."



World Book Online

Travel around the world and back in time with World Book Online. World Book Kids features videos and information about people, places, animals, and things from around the world. The Games & Activities offer fun ways to review skills and learn.



World Book Student lets children

explore current events, learn more about topics they find interesting, and discover influential people.

Tips to use this program:

- Link directly from the AJUSD Student Technology Portal on "World Book Online"
- Use the login user-name=ajusd password=worldbook

- Encourage children to research a topic they are interested in.
- Build off your child's questions. When they ask questions, research the answer together. Ask them more questions: What other animals do you think are like this? How is this place different than another place in the world? What do you think the world would be like if this person hadn't lived?

Brain Pop Jr. & Brain Pop

What it is:

Children can watch videos about math, science, health, reading & writing, social studies, and arts & technology. Brain Pop Jr. contains topics for students in Kg-3rd grade,. Brain Pop is designed for grades 3-8.

On Brain Pop Jr. children can play fun, interactive games that go along with each topic. The Game Up section showcases a range of great links from around the web- children can create a dinosaur in the science section, play Battleship in the math section, build words in the reading section, test matching skills with U.S. symbols in the social studies, create online art in the arts & technology section, and so much more.

In Brain Pop children watch videos to learn more about earthquakes, oceans, famous historical figures, music, computer science, and so much more. They can check out the related topics and become a true expert, then share what they've learned with family and friends

Tips to use this program:

- Link directly from the AJUSD student technology portal. For Brain Pop Jr., follow the link at the bottom of the page. Use your school's login (see below) to access the whole site. (see login info in the box below).
- Parents- in Brain Pop Jr. look for the Grown Ups section (button on the left side of movie screen). Also, when a new question appears on the notebook during a movie, the pause button turns red. This signals an opportunity to pause the movie and have your child activate prior knowledge, make predictions and inferences, and summarize what has happened. Take advantage of the pause button to foster an active viewing experience.
- Use graphic organizers and add details as you watch the movie



together. In Jr., the print notebook button allows you to print all the notebook questions that appear in the movie.

- Use the quizzes- At the end of every movie, you can assess your child's comprehension through two leveled quizzes. In Jr, there are two quizzes: Easy (K-1), and Hard (2-3). In Brain Pop, students can take quizzes and review their answers.
- Integrate literacy with technology. Encourage students to read books about the ideas taught in the movie. In Jr., the Read About it feature offers suggested readings for each movie. Look for book titles on the same topics in the AJ Library, in Tumblebooks, World Book Online, etc.

[My School Login Information:](#)
Please contact your school or email tbarthol@goaj.org

Additional Websites to Explore

Information & Resources for Parents:

- Reading Rockets:
www.readingrockets.org
- Scholastic Summer Challenge:
www.scholastic.com/parents
Great tips on reading and activities for home.
- Barnes and Noble Reading Challenge:
www.barnesandnoble/summer

Students can earn a free book for summer reading!

- Pizza Hut's summer reading challenge: www.bookitprogram.com
The Book It! Program features a minute tracker app, book recommendations, printables, games, and activity calendars.
- Summer Reading with Online Books and Activity Guides for

Parents:

resources.wegivebooks.org
Choose "Read for Summer" Tab

K-2 Reading:

www.starfall.com
www.rif.org/kids/reading planet

K-5 Reading

www.abcya.com
www.funbrain.com "Books and Comics"

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<http://blogs.goaj.org/titleone>

Apache Junction Unified School District:
Excellence in all we do.



Tell us about your summer learning experiences. Go to <http://blogs.goaj.org/titleone/> and choose the "Share Your Summer Learning Stories". Each respondent between May 27 and August 1 will receive a book when we return to school in August.

Brain Teasers (answers at blogs.goaj.org/titleone):

- 1) Where do fish keep their money?
- 2) Mary's father has 4 children; three are named Nana, Nene, and Nini. So, what is the 4th child's name?
- 3) What's full of holes but still holds water?
- 4) What flies without wings?
- 5) Challenge- A train leaves from New York City (NYC) heading towards Los Angeles (LA) at 100 mph. Three hours later, a train leaves LA heading towards NYC at 200 MPH. Assume there's exactly 2000 miles between LA and NYC. When they meet, which train is closer to New York City?

Math Tips and Resources:

Look for opportunities to practice using numbers and finding patterns in home and on vacation. Great opportunities for math include:

- Cook with your child. Talk about measurements being used. Have your child help you double or halve a recipe. Talk about fractions when slicing fruits and vegetables. Getting your child talking about quantities is a great application of math at home.
- Talk about money. Have your child collect spare change and calculate how much the coins are worth, individually and totaled together. When in the store, look at prices to reinforce decimals and estimate prices- how much would

three of these be at \$1.50? Let's round up from .99 to \$1.00 and figure out how many we could buy with \$10. The grocery store is full of fun math lessons.

- Count by 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's, 10's etc. Make this a routine when driving or waiting in line. To add to the level of difficulty, choose a random number and count up from there, rather than starting at 0 (for example- Can you count up from 23 by 5's?)



Find opportunities to learn everywhere!

Websites:

www.abcya.com —Choose your grade level and find a range of math and language arts themed games.

www.hoodamath.com
Choose games by grade level and find a range of math topics reviewed.

www.aplusmath.com Re-view math facts, play

MATHO, and more.

teacher.scholastic.com/mathhunt — scour the Web for science and social studies information to crack math problems.

www.themathcorner.com Find a wealth of math games and resources.