

# Hooray for Summer Reading

Dear Parents,

Summer is almost here! As this school year comes to a close, be sure to congratulate your child on a job well done! But don't stop there! This summer, encourage your child to read, read, read! Not only is reading the perfect way to relax and unwind, but it is also a great way to ensure that your child enters the next grade level prepared for success!

Attached, you will find a suggested summer reading list filled with a variety of engaging, age appropriate books that are sure to capture your child's attention!

For the younger child who is not yet an independent reader, be sure to take a few minutes each night to read aloud to him. To reinforce comprehension, pause occasionally to ask about various characters or events in the story. After you read, ask one or two questions as follow-up to help him make connections to what you have read together. For example, you may want to ask:

- What was your favorite part of the story?
- What would you have done if you were the character?
- How did the characters change in the story?
- Did the story end the way you thought it should? How might you have changed the ending?
- Was there a problem in the story? How was it solved?

If your child is capable of reading on her own, but appears reluctant to do so, you may want to take an active role in guiding her toward books that focus on characters with similar hobbies or interests. You may even want to get her started by reading the first few pages aloud to her, or alternating every other chapter so that you are reading to one another. Yet another way to spark enthusiasm for reading is to have her read along as she listens to an audiocassette or CD of the story. Then, once your child finds a book she loves, introduce her to other books by the same author, or steer her toward selecting books in the same genre.

Whether your child has always enjoyed reading or is just beginning to discover joy in it, foster reading enthusiasm by providing plenty of opportunities to read over the summer! Enroll in a summer reading program at your local public library or set up your own incentive program at home (e.g., read three books and get a small reward!). The more your child reads over the summer, the more likely he is to make a smooth transition into the next school year!

Have a safe and happy summer vacation!

Sincerely,

Mrs. Jones and Miss Daras

## **Kindergarten Reading Suggestions**

(We encourage all parents to read daily to your children!)

Books by Eric Carle

The Clifford Book Series

Dr. Seuss

The Arthur Book series

The Franklin Series by Paulette Bourgeois

The Little Critter Books by Mercer Mayer