



2024

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Grades K-4

Dear Parents/Guardians,

We hope this year's Summer Reading format will assist you in helping your child to read EVERY DAY this summer. Of all the activities in which children engage in outside of school, time spent actually reading is the best predictor of reading achievement. It may sound obvious, but it is true: ***The more children read, the better readers they become.*** And for the next few months it's all up to YOU to ensure your child doesn't experience what is known as "The Summer Slide!"

The Summer Slide

The Summer Slide sounds like fun, but it's not. The stakes for children who do not read over the summer are high. Substantial research on this topic shows it's usually the students who can *least* afford to lose ground as readers who are *most likely* to suffer from summer reading loss, and "slide" far behind their peers. These few months of reading loss compounds over the years, and by the time these children reach middle school, those who haven't read during the summer may have lost as much as two years worth of achievement.

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Each student in Grades K-4 will keep a Weekly Summer Reading Journal. Your student should be reading **daily**, but only needs to fill out his/her journal twice each week. This journal should be seen as a visual to help recognize how much your child has been reading but more importantly, when he/she has NOT been reading. Please keep it in a safe yet visible place. It should be returned to your child's teacher on the first day of school.

This journal format accommodates ALL reading abilities - from those Kindergarteners reading short books to 4th Graders reading novels. There are lines to write a response about the MAIN IDEA of what was read. This can be written by your child independently, with assistance OR for the littlest readers/listeners, an adult can prompt the child to talk about what was just read, and then write the response for them. The most important thing is that your child is **reading** and is **thinking** about what

they just read each and every day. Easier said than done, right? Read on below for some helpful suggestions.

Summer Reading Tips

1. Set a **daily reading routine** to read at the same time each day. Usually this time is right before bed. But in the summer months, bedtime routines are not as consistent and this may not be the best time to read. A great time to read during the summer is right after lunch. Kids have had the morning to relax and play, they have just settled into lunch, and have not begun any afternoon activities yet.
2. **Model good reading**. If your child's reading is sounding monotone or choppy, the best thing you can do is model what the reading should sound like and then have your child try reading the passage again. Rereading is a great way to help kids become more fluent readers.
3. Model good reading can also mean reading aloud an entire book (even a chapter book). Children's **listening comprehension** is usually stronger than their reading comprehension until around the 6th grade. Have multiple children at home? Use this summer as an opportunity to do a family read-aloud.
4. Keep in mind reading books that seem slightly below a child's reading level or books that have become "old favorites" can help a developing reader to **build confidence and fluency**.
5. Families should make regular visits to **the library** and allow children to explore different reading materials. Librarians can offer suggestions that might be a good match for a child's interests and reading level. Most libraries also hold Summer Reading Programs that can help keep you and your child stay motivated.

Book Selections

What should your child read this summer? The main answer is - let them choose! Let's not forget reading is supposed to be an enjoyable activity. During the school year, teachers select all of the reading material. Summer is the time for kids to choose! In fact, research shows children tend to read more during the summer if they are allowed to choose the books they read.

Please remember YOUR CHILD needs to engage with books EVERY DAY so he/she can maintain, and ideally strengthen, all of the literacy skills learned during the school year. Encouraging your child to read over summer vacation is the single most important thing you can do to help develop your child's literacy learning.

Enjoy your summer reading!

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 1: June 17 - June 21, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 2: June 24 - June 28, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 3: July 1 - July 5, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 4: July 8 - July 12, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 5: July 15 - July 19, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 6: July 22 - July 26, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 7: July 29 - August 2, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 8: August 5 - August 9, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 9: August 12 - August 16, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Weekly Summer Reading Journal

Spencer-East Brookfield Regional School District: Summer 2024

Student Name: _____

Week 10: August 19 - August 23, 2024

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____

Book Title: _____

What was the most important thing about what I just read? _____
