

SUMMER READING TIPS for FAMILIES

Why Read During the Summer?

Read for fun! Read to succeed! During summer, children can freely choose what they want to read. When they make their own choices, children discover the pleasure of reading which can help them to develop lifelong reading habits. Summer reading also gives children a head-start for the following school year. Children who read as few as six (6) books during the summer months will gain or maintain reading skills achieved during the school year.

Here are a few simple reading ideas for families this summer.



Visit the library If your child doesn't have a municipal library card, summer is a great time to register. Many libraries also offer fun summer reading programs. Remember that membership at La Bibliothèque et Archives nationales du Québec (BANQ) is free for all residents of Quebec. Visit the BANQ at 475, boulevard De Maisonneuve Est, Montréal. www.banq.qc.ca

Variety is the spice of life Stories aren't the only thing that kids can read for fun. Yard sales and thrift stores are great places to stock up on newspapers, magazines, cookbooks, maps, games and audio books.

Lead by example Read the newspaper at breakfast and stuff a paperback or a magazine in your beach bag. If kids see the adults around them reading often, they will understand that reading can be a fun and important part of their summer days.

Talk about it Talking with your kids about what you have read also lets them know that reading is an important part of your life. Tell them why you liked a book, what you learned from it, or how it helped you -- soon they might start doing the same.

Read out loud No matter what their age, children enjoy enthusiastic read-a-louds. You can improvise different voices or wear a silly hat to make the story more interesting. Older children will appreciate hearing poetry, riddles or silly stories from the media.

Read it, watch it, make it Books that teach kids how to make or do something are a great way to get kids reading and keep them occupied. When seeing a movie or taking a trip, encourage kids to check out a book on a similar theme. Ask your librarian for suggestions.

On the road again Read aloud traffic signs and billboards on your next trip. Show your children how to read a map, and once you are on the road, let them take turns being the navigator. Listen to audio books.

Le plaisir de lire Help your child continue to improve his or her second language by reading in French.

Ebooks are books, too Don't forget that the EMSB Virtual Library www.emsb.qc.ca/virtuallibrary is available all summer long with access to *TumbleBooks* for elementary students and *OverDrive* for secondary students.

Scholastic Book Flix is a fun online library that pairs animated storybooks with non-fiction ebooks. Access it via the Portal <https://portail.emsb.qc.ca/> under "Resources" and click the "LEARN" icon. To watch celebrities reading favourite picture books, check out www.storylineonline.net