




Parents Matter

May 2013



Title 1: Parents,
Teachers, and
Students working
together to achieve
more!

Naumann Elementary School's Title I
Parent Newsletter

Families,

**My website will be
available all summer for
your family to use.**

**On the site you will find
educational games and
ideas for supporting your
child's learning over the
summer.**

The address is:

<http://mrsgiulvezan.weebly.com>

Questions? Comments?

Please contact Mrs.
Giulvezan at 512-570-5857 or
email:

christina.giulvezan@leanderisd.org.



Have a Blast with Summer Learning!

What a great year it has been! As we wind down and begin to prepare for summer, please remember that the best way to keep your children learning during vacation is to tap into their interests.

If your child would be happy living on the beach, summer is a great time to research beaches around the world or study marine animals. Does your child collect shells, sand dollars, or special rocks at the beach? Have your child create a chart to keep track of how many he or she collects each day. Then ask your child what patterns he or she notices or how many items were collected in all.

How about a little science? Does your child wonder why some soaps float and some don't? Buy a few different brands and experiment! Whatever topic your child is interested in, there are websites, books, and movies that will keep your child thinking and learning.

Children are full of questions, finding ways for them to try and answer those questions keeps their brains sharp and energized. These are the experiences that will give your child an edge when school starts again in the fall!

Keep Your Child Reading This Summer!

During the summer, books might be the last thing on your child's mind. Most kids are ready for a break and happy to trade in reading, writing and arithmetic for summer camp, family vacations and lazy beach days. But many studies have shown that **children who read when they're away from school perform better academically than those who don't**. Here are **10 ways** to get even the most reluctant reader engaged in a reading adventure!

1. Use Hollywood to inspire your child to read

Take advantage of movies and DVDs that are based on books appropriate for your child's age. Watching all the Harry Potter movies or renting the DVD of *Hoot*, based on Carl Hiaasen's first novel for young readers, may pique your middle-schooler's interest in reading the books, if they haven't already.

Likewise, the film version of Roald Dahl's *Charlie and the Chocolate Factory* gives you an opportunity to introduce your younger child to other books by the same author, such as *James and the Giant Peach* or *The BFG*.

2. Play a summer reading game at your local library or start your own book club

Many libraries offer online sign-ups for these popular summer reading programs. Most have a set reading list and if children read all of the titles within a certain time frame, they win a prize. You could also create your own reading game at home with a chart, stickers and perhaps a grand prize of the child's choice. Another alternative is to get a group of kids together to form a neighborhood book group, where members can discuss what they are reading and/or exchange books.

3. Involve your child in planning your family vacation

Whether it's a trip to the ballpark or across the country, have your child research the players, the sites and even the weather in programs, brochures, guidebooks, a Farmer's Almanac, or on the Internet.

4. Start a collection

Help your children become experts on something this summer by starting a collection. Encourage them to visit Web sites, view videos and look for library books to learn more about their new interest.

5. Visit a comic shop

The transformation of classic comic strips like Scooby-Doo, Spiderman and Batman into major motion pictures has renewed an interest in comic books. They make especially good reading material for visual and artistic learners, as they allow readers to make easy connections between picture sequences and written text. Encourage your child to read comics and even create his own comic strip this summer.

6. Read cookbooks and packaged food labels

Have your children select recipes they would like to try. Include them in grocery shopping and meal preparation. Encourage them to read product labels so they know what they will be eating. You might be surprised to find they enjoy family meals more when they've taken part in the process.

7. Read instruction pamphlets

This kind of "practical" reading helps children connect reading with hands-on learning. Reading instructions for building projects, assembling games or blowing up pool toys can give children a real sense of accomplishment.

8. Read the newspaper aloud

Start reading parts of newspaper articles aloud and encourage your child to do the same. Some newspapers even have children's sections. This is a great way to engage your child in conversation and promote his interest in what is going on in the world. Suggest to your child that he read aloud to a sibling or young friend, or volunteer together to read to an elderly person.

9. Get a magazine subscription for your child

There are numerous magazines that are targeted to young kids and preteens. Kids can often identify with the voice and subject matter, and the articles will hold their attention. Even if it's not *Swiss Family Robinson*, the benefits of continued reading might make up for the lack of weightier content.

10. Be a reading role model

Let them see you read. Read anywhere — the airport, bus stop, doctor's office, swimming pool, etc. If they see you reading for enjoyment, they will want to read, too. *from greatschools.org*