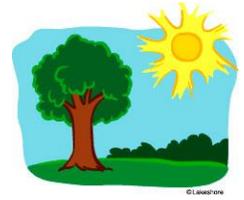




Bellevue Children's Academy

Summer Study Guide

First Grade



We recommend that children reinforce what they learned during the school year by engaging in learning activities over the summer. Our **Summer Study Guide** contains suggestions for fun ways to bring a little "school" into your child's summer and prepare him or her for Second Grade.

- For a Summer Reading List related to each IB Learner Profile attribute, please visit www.bcacademy.com > Academics > Parent Resources
- For a Summer Reading List related to each PYP Transdisciplinary Theme, please visit www.bcacademy.com > Academic > Library

Language Inquiry

Combine Activities with Books

Summer leaves lots of time for children to enjoy fun activities such as going to the park, seeing a movie, or heading out to the beach. Why not encourage them to read a book about the activity? If you're going to the Seattle Mariners' game, for example, suggest that your child read a book or a newspaper article about his or her favorite player beforehand. In the car or over a hot dog, you'll have plenty of time to talk about the book (and the game).

Visit the Library

If your child doesn't have a library card, summer is a great time to sign up. Encourage your child to participate in King County Library System's wonderful Summer Reading Program. (If you do not live in King County, visit your local library for information on their summer reading programs). You can sign up for KCLS's summer reading program either on-line or at your local library.

Lead by Example

Read the newspaper at breakfast, pick up a magazine at the doctor's office, or stuff a paperback into your beach bag. If children see the adults around them reading often, they will understand that literature can be a fun and important part of their summer days.

Talk It Up

Talking with your children 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.

Help Children Find Time to Read

Summer camp, music lessons, soccer games: All of these are fun activities that children enjoy during the summer. However, by the end of the day, children may be too tired to pick up a book. When planning summer activities, be sure to leave some free time in their schedules for reading.

Relax the Rules for Summer

During the school year, children have busy schedules-and required reading. Summer is the perfect time for children to read what, when, and how they please. At this age, you may not need to set daily minute requirements or determine the number of pages they should read. Instead, make sure they pick up books for fun.

Have Plenty of Reading Materials Around

Storybooks aren't the only thing that children can read for enjoyment. Be sure to have newspapers, magazines, comic books, and informational material on hand that might spark the interest of a young reader.

Use Reading Materials to Keep Boredom at Bay

Without a regular school regimen, children sometimes need more activities and structure to fill the hours. Books that teach children how to make or do something are a great way to get them reading. Don't forget to take your children's favorite reading series along on long road trips. Reading series are a parent's best friend!

Read Aloud

Take your children to see a local storyteller--or be one yourself. The summer months leave extra time for enthusiastic read-alouds with children no matter what their age. Improvise: Use a different voice or wear a silly hat to make the story even more interesting. We also encourage students to read aloud to you to practice their fluency!

Keep a Summer Journal

Take your children on outings. Afterwards, have them write about and illustrate their family adventure.

Practice Reading Skills Online

There are many great websites for students to explore books and practice their reading skills at home!

- Read something new! <https://www.getepic.com/>
- Listen to actors and actresses read aloud: <https://storylineonline.net/>
- Hear a story read by an astronaut in space! <https://storytimefromspace.com/>

Online Resources for Writing

No idea of what to write? Use the following websites full of story starters!

- o <http://www.scholastic.com/teachers/story-starters/index.html>
- o <https://www.journalbuddies.com/journal-prompts-writing-ideas/prompt-generator/>

Math Inquiry

A good way to review the math concepts taught this year is to have children apply them to their daily lives.

Number Awareness

Increase your child's awareness of numbers by looking around the house to find examples: weather forecasts, sports statistics, the calendar, a cereal box, mail-address numbers, telephone numbers, a shoe size, clothing measurements, shopping receipts, etc.

1. Write down the numbers: numerical (225) and word form (two hundred and twenty-five).
2. Compare the number using: greater than $>$, less than $<$, equal to $=$
3. Add and subtract the numbers.

Measure the Distance

You don't have to leave home for this fun game, although it's ideal for vacations. Get out a map that indicates the distance in miles between cities. Measure the distance between Seattle and San Francisco and between Portland and San Francisco. Which is greater?

How Tall Are You?

Many families record the height of their child on a door or wall chart. If you do the same for everyone in the family, your child can join in the measuring and see how the heights compare. Graph the results. Write some problem-solving questions for your child in relation to height. For example, if Brad is 10 inches taller than Angie, how tall is Angie?

Weigh Me

Teach estimating skills. Ask your children to guess the weight (grams, kilograms, ounces, or pounds) of several household objects--a waste basket, a coat, a full glass of water, etc. Then show your child how to use a scale to weigh the objects. Next, have them estimate their own weight, as well as that of other family members, and use the scale to check their guesses. Some brave parents can get on the scale, too.

Napkin Fractions

Fold paper towels or napkins into large and small fractions. Start with halves and move to eighths and sixteenths. Use magic markers to label the fractions.

Cook up a Math Game

The kitchen is a great place to practice math, as long as there's an adult to supervise. How many tomatoes will you need to double the recipe for sauce? If you put ten slices of mushroom on the pizza, have your child put in twice as many olives. If there are three people in your family and fifteen strawberries to divide equally among them, how many strawberries will each person get?

What's on the Menu?

The next time you go to a restaurant, hang on to the menu while you are waiting for your meal and play some math games with your child. Ask him or her to find the least expensive item on the menu, then all the items that cost between \$5 and \$10, then three items whose total cost is between \$9 and \$20. This will not only fill the time while you're waiting to dine, it will show your child how math is used every day.

Change Up

Give your child an assortment of quarters, dimes, nickels, and pennies. Place an apple on the table and tell him or her that it costs 45 cents. Tell your child that he or she needs to find five coin combinations that equal 45 cents. Change the item to a banana, raise the price to 83 cents, and ask how much change will be given if paid for with a \$5 bill.

Tracking Time

Together with your child, keep track of the time he or she spends on activities during the summer. Make a table listing the seven days of one week, with columns for each activity. Create a graph from your results.

Together with your child, keep track of how he or she spends time in one 24-hour period: sleeping, eating, playing, reading, sports, and cheerfully helping you around the house. Measure a strip of paper that is 24 inches long. Let each inch represent one hour. Color in the number of hours for each activity, using a different color for each activity. When finished, make the strip into a circle and place it on a blank piece of paper. Trace around the circle. Then make lines from the center of the circle to the end of each color. Your child has just made a circle (pie) chart of how he or she spends 24 hours. Compare this with how other people in your family spend their time.

Multiplication

- Put some dominoes face down
- Shuffle them
- Have each child choose a domino
- Multiply the two numbers on your domino
- Whoever has the biggest answer keeps the two dominoes
- The winner is the person with the most dominoes when they have all been used.

Practice Math Skills Online

A great way to practice math skills while spending time at home is to explore what the internet has to offer. Here are a few of our favorite websites!

- <http://www.maths-games.org/>
- <https://www.turtlediary.com/>
- <https://www.education.com/games/>
- <https://www.coolmath4kids.com/>
- <https://pbskids.org/>
- <https://www.mathplayground.com/>
- <https://www.abcya.com/>

Science Inquiry

Science Experiments

Want to make a balloon rocket, grow crystals or more? Check out a book on Science Experiments from the library or try one of these websites!

- <https://californiasciencecenter.org/funlab/stuck-home-science>
- <https://www.playdoughtoplato.com/kids-science-crystal-names/>
- <https://www.sciencefun.org/kidszone/experiments/>
- <https://www.sciencekids.co.nz/experiments.html>

Virtual Travel

Stuck at Home? Not Anymore!

- Cincinnati Zoo provides Home Safaris, where you can meet all sorts of new animals!
<http://cincinnati-zoo.org/home-safari-resources/>
- San Diego Zoo has lots of animal cameras and games and activities:
<https://kids.sandiegozoo.org/>
- Monterey Bay Aquarium has live cams- watch jellyfish and sharks swim on by:
<https://www.montereybayaquarium.org/animals/live-cams>
- Explore Space: <https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html>

Get Creative:

Create an Art Gallery

What materials do you have around the house that you could use to make some art? You could try making paintings, drawings, or even sculptures!

Get Inspired

- Get Crafty with Crayola: <https://www.crayola.com/crafts/>
- Learn how to draw something new:
 - <https://www.youtube.com/user/ArtforKidsHub>
 - <https://www.mykidstime.com/things-to-do/6-of-the-best-how-to-draw-websites-for-kids/>
- Create a rainbow fish: <https://www.naturalbeachliving.com/paper-plate-fish-craft/>

- Make your own jellyfish: <https://www.craftiments.com/2013/04/glow-in-dark-jellyfish-craft.html>
- Try some salt painting! <https://www.iheartartscrafts.com/jellyfish-salt-painting-activity-kids/>
- Fold your own paper bracelets: <https://picklebums.com/make-folded-paper-bracelets/>
- Make Foam Paint: <https://dabblesandbabbles.com/3-ingredient-diy-foam-paint/>
- Use some old magazines and make a collage!
- Did you get bubble wrap in a package? Try bubble wrap stamp painting: <https://www.artbarblog.com/bubble-wrap-printing/>
- Try marble painting: <https://artfulparent.com/marble-painting-for-kids/>

We hope you enjoy these ideas. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

Ms. Jap, Ms. Yadon, Ms. Nelson, Mrs. Letter, Ms. Lippincott, Mrs. Wilson, Mrs. Montgomery, Mrs. Mummert, Mrs. Thomas, Mrs. Firth, Mrs. Tandasi and Mrs. O'Kelly