



# HAPPY CAMPER

Take a Reading Adventure

## THE RESEARCH SAYS THAT SUMMER READING IS IMPORTANT!

- Despite conventional wisdom, six in 10 children ages 6–17 agree “I really enjoy reading books over the summer” (62%), with the main reasons being “I just enjoy reading” and “It’s a fun way to pass the time.”<sup>1</sup>
- On average, kids read eight books over the summer; however, one in five 12–17-year-olds and one in five kids in lower-income families did not read any books at all last summer.<sup>1</sup>
- Nearly half of parents with children ages 6–17 (48%) have heard of the “summer slide,” with lower-income parents far less likely to have heard of this (38%).<sup>1</sup>
- An overwhelming nine in ten kids say they are more likely to finish a book they picked out themselves.<sup>1</sup>
- Regardless of ethnicity, socioeconomic level, or previous achievement, children who read four or more books over the summer fare better on reading comprehension tests in the fall than their peers who read one or no books over the summer.<sup>2</sup>
- Teachers typically spend between four to six weeks reteaching material that students have forgotten over the summer.<sup>3</sup>
- It’s estimated that the summer slide accounts for as much as 85% of the reading achievement gap between lower-income students and their middle- and upper-income peers.<sup>4</sup>
- Third-graders who can’t read on grade level are four times less likely to graduate by age 18 than a proficient reader.<sup>5</sup>

## Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge

To help kids take a “summer leap” into books this summer, Scholastic has created the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge, a FREE online and mobile summer reading program where kids can log their reading minutes and earn virtual prizes!

Go to [scholastic.com/summer](https://www.scholastic.com/summer) to sign up!

1. YouGov and Scholastic 2016  
2. J. Kim 2004  
3. K. L. Alexander, D. R. Entwisle, and L. S. Olson 2007  
4. R. Allington and A. McGill-Franzen 2009  
5. D. J. Hernandez 2011

