

6 to Make it Stick!

Research shows that children can lose up to three months of academic progress over one summer vacation. Reading a minimum of six books can help maintain reading levels while school is out of session.

Just 6

- Choose books that interest the reader.
- Find books at the library, bookstore, or swap with friends!

you can read more!

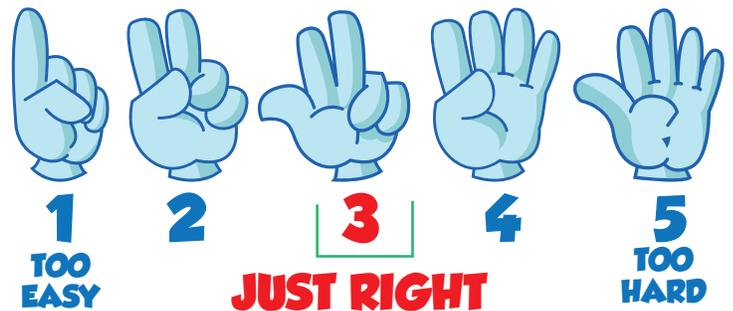


Just Right

How to choose a just right book:

- Open a book to any page and begin reading.
- Each time you come to a word you don't know, hold up 1 finger.
- After you finish reading the page, check to see how many fingers you are holding up:

5-Finger Rule:



Easy Ways to Help Children Avoid "Summer Slide"

1. Make a list of five easy-to-find words for your child to look for on your next shopping trip. Challenge your child to find each word before you leave the store crossing off the words as you go.
2. Make use of "I'm bored!" Since many children won't consider reading for fun unless there is nothing else to do, make sure there are plenty of interesting reading materials (books, magazines, etc.) available for those "I'm bored" moments.
3. Start written conversations by leaving notes for your child that include questions so they will write back to you. Example: "Sarah, way to go on your swimming lessons. What special thing would you like to do to celebrate?"



4. Take a family pledge to not watch TV or play video games for a week and record "unplugged" activities. Plan a celebration for the end of the week where family members share which alternatives they liked best, and discuss future cutbacks on viewing.
5. Create a Summer Memory Book. Use postcards from places visited and write what they would like to remember on the back, or clip pictures from magazines to glue on index cards. Punch a hole in the corner of the memory cards and put on a ring for a keepsake for your child.



Source: <http://www.michigan.gov/mde/0,4615,7-140-43092-69358--,00.html>