



Summer Reading Benefits & Recommendations

Baltimore County's English Language Arts Office recommends all students should **engage in summer reading**.

Benefits of Reading Over the Summer Months: (courtesy of scholarwithin.com)

- Enhance reading skills in the key areas of phonics, fluency, spelling, comprehension, and vocabulary
- Ignite a passion for reading and books
- Improves self-esteem
- Reduces the possibility of summer reading loss
- Strengthens literacy & background knowledge
- Boosts memory skills

Strategies to Encourage Reading in the Summer: (curiosity of scholastic.com)

- Take your child to the library
- Take books on road trips and vacations
- Purchase books from yard sales, book clubs, libraries, and bookstores
- Find book series or authors that your child enjoys
- Build reading time into the summer routine/schedule
- Sign your child up for community reading clubs, groups, or programs
- Read the same book as your child so you can talk about the book together
- Put limits on the amount of screen time

Our office's vision statement includes "*producing globally competitive graduates who are critical thinkers, accomplished readers and writers, and skillful communicators,*" we believe that reading should be at the heart of the high expectations we hold for all students.

Therefore, we believe:

- Reading matters.
- Reading creates opportunities for students to explore new perspectives, discover new interests, cultivate or create their identities, and to imagine possibilities for their lives beyond their immediate circumstances or capabilities.
- Students should have a choice over the books they read in the summer.
- Students should have multiple ways to share their summer reading experiences with their peers.
- Schools should do their best to create excitement and access around summer reading opportunities.