Fun Activities for grades ECE – High School

Summer Learning Guide
Keep your children engaged, active and learning during the summer months
Did you know that if students stop learning over the summer, they can lose more than two months of what they learned over the last school year?
Now is the time to begin thinking about summer activities to keep your children engaged, active and learning over the summer months.

Did you know that if students stop learning during the summer, they can lose more than two months of what they learned in reading and math? This is called summer learning loss and it occurs when students forget what they learned over the school year. Students who consistently fall behind due to summer learning loss throughout their elementary school years could wind up falling more than 2.5 years behind their peers by the end of fifth grade.

Even though there are many summer programs available, most of them have early registration deadlines and limited space. Start inquiring about summer activities and programs available in your school and community and register your children before the end of March.

Learning is something natural that can occur at any moment. For example, daily conversations with your children will increase their self-confidence, expand their knowledge and vocabulary, improve their communication skills and strengthen your relationships with them.

The Office of Family and Community Engagement partnered with teachers from different grade levels to develop this Fun Activities for Summer Learning Parent Guide. The guide is filled with activities that will help you keep your children engaged, active and learning during the summer months.

We appreciate everything you do to support your children’s education. Together we can ensure that every child succeeds in the Denver Public Schools.

A special thank you to the following teachers who helped in the development of the Summer Learning Guide:

Park Hill Elementary School: Mary Beth Carlson, Kathleen Isberg, Cheryl Kling, Chris Ando
West Leadership Academy: Diego Romero, Kristin Repaci, Bronwen Forrestal, Margarita Colindres
Summer Academy: Lorenza Lara & Alejandra Estrada
HERE ARE SOME SUGGESTIONS ON HOW YOU CAN SUPPORT YOUR CHILD’S LEARNING:

- Let your child know how much you love and value him or her.
- Provide opportunities for your child to see you reading, both for enjoyment and for information.
- Read to your child every day. Children love to hear their favorite stories over and over again. Get a library card and go to the library weekly. Discuss the books after you have read them.
- Help your child express his or her theatrical side and reading comprehension by doing fun activities related to his or her favorite books. After taking time to read a story together:
  - Ask your child to act it out and have props or costumes your child can use.
  - Have him or her draw the characters in the story or make them out of pipe cleaners or popsicle sticks.
  - Ask your child to make different faces to show the way that the character in the story is feeling.
- Encourage your child to ask questions. Answer them in language your child can understand.
- Talk with your child about daily activities, trips, and special events that happen in your child’s life.
- Display your child’s work in a prominent place.
- Take your child as many places as possible – shopping, to the zoo, the airport, local parks, etc.
- Provide learning materials for your child such as books, paints, scissors, paper, crayons, and pencils.
- Teach your child their birthdate, address and phone number.
- Limit the time your child watches television and supervise closely what he or she is watching.
- Teach your child the letters in their first and last names and how to write them.
- Help your child learn their colors.
- Sing songs and say nursery rhymes.
- Play games (card games and board games as well as outside games)
- Count objects together.
- Have your child sort and categorize many different things by size or shape. These can include small plastic toys such as animals and vehicles, blocks, or other small objects such as coins, stamps, cups, and bottle caps. Have children explore different ways to sort objects into similar groups.

---Adapted from Denver Public Schools, Early Childhood Education Dept.
The following Reading, Writing, Math and Science fun activities will give your children an opportunity to practice their thinking skills and increase their awareness of words, patterns and skills needed to be successful in school. These learning activities can be done at home or anywhere else. Try out a few of these fun activities each day or create your own!

**READING**

- **Labels:** On clothes - where were they made? On food packages - what are the ingredients?
- **Vocabulary flash cards:** You make for interesting words from stories you are reading or talking about.
- **Read aloud together.** ECHO reading means one person reads first and the 2nd person echoes the words. CHORAL reading means you read together at the same time. Talk about the text. What did you learn? What else do you want to know?
- **Look at pictures or other illustrations and read the labels.** Did the words explain the picture or did the picture explain the words?
- **Go to the library and find books you are interested in and read them.** Tell your family what you liked about the book. Identify new words and ask someone what the word means. Help your child make their own dictionary in a notebook.

**WRITING**

- **Play grocery store:** label items, make a grocery list.
- **Play restaurant:** make a menu, take orders, & write out ticket.
- **Write out your plans each week.**
- **Write about your favorite TV show.**
- **Why is it your favorite show?**
- **Help plan the meal for one night by writing down the list of ingredients.**
- **Go on a treasure hunt for words:** create a list of the words to find.
- **Ask your family to name their favorite things and write down their answers.**
- **Write a story with all the members of your family as characters.**

**MATH**

- **Talk about math.** For example: We have 2 children and 2 adults coming to dinner, how many places should we set the table for?
- **Play games:** there are 12 pieces on each side of the checkerboard. If you jump me three times, how many game pieces will I have left? Another game might be “I’m thinking of a number”. My number when added with 6 makes 10. What is my number?
- **Measure the knife, fork and spoon by inches and or centimeters.** Discuss which is longer/shorter and by how much.
- **Help students understand place value by adding and subtracting 2 digit numbers.**

**SCIENCE**

- **Plant and care for different seeds including flowers and vegetables.** Record information as they grow.
- **Explore and examine changes in your shadow over the course of the day.**
- **Try to identify insects and birds you see in your community.** Look for their “habitats” in your yard and neighborhood. Try to recreate a “natural” habitat in a shoebox. Discuss what living things need to survive.
- **Collect, compare and discuss rocks.**
- **Look at the stars at night.** Note the changes in the moon and stars.
- **Study human body diagram and draw/label the systems:** (skeletal; respiratory; digestive).
The following Reading, Writing, Math and Science fun activities will give your children an opportunity to practice their thinking skills and increase their awareness of words, patterns and skills needed to be successful in school. These learning activities can be done at home or anywhere else. Try out a few of these fun activities each day or create your own!

**READING**
- Movie subtitles: Turn on closed-captioning while you watch TV. Name the important characters and describe their personalities. Retell the story.
- Comic books and Graphic Novels: Compare different heroes. What makes them heroes? Who do they save? Is there more than one character?
- Recipes: Follow the directions and make something new! Write down new vocabulary.
- Magazines and the Internet: Read about the earth, animals, plants, and famous people. How are animals and people the same? If plants disappeared, what would happen?
- Letters from family: write letters to family members who do not live in Denver. Ask them to write back to you.

**WRITING**
- Write the grocery list each week.
- Write an episode of a favorite TV show with you in it.
- Research your favorite subject and create a presentation for your family.
- Write a list of chores for the week.
- Write about your favorite TV show. Tell why it is your favorite show?
- Write out the daily weather report and become your family’s weather forecaster.
- Prepare questions for an interview. Interview someone and write the answers in a journal.
- Compare and contrast two TV shows, which is the best and why?

**MATH**
- Count things and compare them. There are 15 apples in a 5 lb. bag for $10.99 and 25 oranges in a 10 lb. bag for $10.79. What’s the best deal?
- Tell time together. Compare a digital watch to an analog clock.
- While you are cooking, use recipes to find fractions (1/4 tsp. salt), or work together to double and half the recipes.
- Help your child learn to divide by evenly sharing toys, food, and money.
- Measure angles and find and identify right angles in your home.
- Find the perimeter of a room. Double the length, double the width and add them together.
- Determine the area of a room: length times width.
- Teach your child to count coins and make change.

**SCIENCE**
- Look at the stars at night. Note the changes in the moon and stars.
- Create or draw a model of the solar system.
- Learn about recycling and participate in your community.
- Experiment with water: record the evaporation of water in an open jar.
- Test the density of objects by checking whether they sink or float.
- Keep a weather journal. Study and write about the weather patterns.
- Study human body diagram and draw and label the systems (skeletal; respiratory; digestive).
School may be out for the summer but the learning doesn’t stop. While there are many worthwhile summer camps, classes and programs in our community to keep your student engaged and learning over the summer, there are also many things you can do as a family to keep your students learning and practicing their thinking skills. Take an interest in your student’s summer activities to ensure learning keeps on going. The following Reading, Writing, Math and Science fun activities can help you get started.

**READING**

- Plan a family experience after reading a book on the topic.
- Share reading materials from your native country or in your native language. You can gather these materials and create a scrapbook.
- Write your favorite family story. Illustrate it, and take turns reading it. Reflect on different stories and discuss different story telling styles.
- Take turns reading aloud while you read a variety of literacy materials such as food menus or recipes, bus schedules, and ads.
- After reading a book, provide an opportunity for the family to role play various scenes from the book.
- Use technology at your home or library to access e-books (iPod, iPad, iPhone, Smart Phone, Kindle etc.)

**WRITING**

- Treat yourself to a beautiful new journal or notebook. Record your thoughts and what you are doing this summer so that you never forget it! Buy a journal with no lines on the pages so you can draw and write.
- As soon as school is out, make a list of everywhere you want to go this summer. Continue adding to the list, and cross out the places you’ve visited.
- Start your own blog about your summer!
- Challenge yourself to write long messages to your friends and family on Facebook. Super challenge yourself to use correct punctuation, spelling and capitalization to keep yourself in shape!
- Research a vacation destination and write to the tourist board for information.

**MATH**

- Play mental math in the car. See how many you can get correct before you reach your destination.
- Use the odometer in the car to keep track of how many miles your family drives each day. Graph it!
- When you go to buy something at the store, calculate the sales tax and try to make exact change. See if you are correct!
- Predict the number of times a coin will land on heads if you flip a coin 100 times. Then, give it a try! Record your results in a table. Do this experiment a few times and compare your results.
- Have a lemonade stand! Figure out how much to charge for each cup in order to make a profit.
- Time yourself running one mile. Keep track of your time each week. Graph your progress and see your improvement.

**SCIENCE**

- Do science experiments with your child:
  a. Make an egg float in salt water
  b. Make Lemonade Fizzy Drink
  c. Mixing oil and water
- Find a scientific article and have your child share a summary.
- As you drive, have your child find and define science words on the road.
- Take your child camping and talk about nature, and talk about why you cannot see the stars during the day or in the city.
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**READING**

- Engage in a conversation about current events that are relevant to your family, and find more information on newspapers, magazines and other social media.
- Before reading a text, discuss what the purpose for reading is and talk about any predictions you might have about the text. After reading, check for understanding of the text.
- Use technology to promote online learning programs at home or at the library. Use the internet to access e-books, online book clubs, magazines and newspapers.
- Choose a family story, and engage in a learning dialogue with your family to identify what is the purpose of the story. Take turns retelling the story.
- Share reading materials from your native country or in your native language.

**WRITING**

- Have you ever gotten a real letter in the mail? Try writing to a relative that lives far away from you. Even though we have Facebook and e-mail, there’s nothing like getting a letter in your hands!
- College application essays usually ask about the following topics: an important incident that changed your life, an obstacle that you had to overcome, or something you worked hard to achieve. Work your brain out this summer by jotting down notes on each of these subjects in a notebook. When it comes time to write these essays, you will be so glad that you have those notes!

**MATH**

- Keep a record of the temperature each day. Calculate the average temperature for each week. Which week was the warmest? Which month was the warmest?
- Look through the supermarket ads online/in-store/newspaper. Which supermarket has the best deals?
- Help with your family grocery shopping. Cut coupons and calculate how much money you will save.
- Plan a dinner for your family – with a budget of $15.
- Make a monthly budget for yourself. Save at least 25% of your monthly income.
- Have your friends over for a summer celebration! Buy snacks and plan activities. Keep the cost under $2 per person.

**SCIENCE**

- Do science experiments:
  a. Build a volcano
  b. Make a paperclip float
  c. Clean pennies with vinegar
- Cook a meal with your parent or guardian and talk to them about process, temperature, directions, and their overall reactions.
- Work on if then statements (predictions)... If I cook a meal, then I will not be hungry.
- Plant a garden of vegetables or flowers and journal your observations. Be sure to water them!
- Look at your thermometer each day during the summer and create a line graph to present to your science teacher the first day of school.
By: Karen Wang | 6/20/2012 | www.friendshipcircle.org

Between June and September my kids have 82 days of summer vacation, and I’ve promised them something fun every single day. That means I need 82 fun summer activities for one child with a developmental disability and one child who refuses to participate in most activities. It’ll be a piece of cake, right? Borrowing the weekday “Summer Schedule For Kids” at somewhatsimple.com, scouring the internet for more ideas and adding some of my own activities, here are 82 days of summer fun and learning:

**Safety Sunday**

1. Teach your child his or her full name.
2. Teach your child your full name.
3. Have your child memorize your home address – show where the house number is located outside and show where the street name.
4. Have your child memorize your phone number. Practice reciting key information.
5. Learn how to cross the street safely.
6. Practice an escape route in case of fire.
7. Practice saying “no:” make it a game in which you take turns asking each other to do increasingly absurd things.
8. Play hide-and-go-seek to teach your child how to remain calm while looking for you.
9. Teach your child the buddy system.
10. Teach your child what an emergency is and how to call 911.
11. Practice asking for help with things that are hot, sharp, dangerous or too high to reach.

**Make Something Monday**

13. Arrange 5 or 6 photos to make a poster or scrapbook page.
15. Plant a seedling outdoors.
16. Dig for worms – it’s a great exercise for fine motor skills and tactile defensiveness. Re-home the worms next to that seedling you planted.
17. Bubble snakes.
18. Make a leaf scrapbook.
19. Color the sidewalk with chalk. Wash it all away with water.
20. Paint using different types of paintbrushes: a fly swatter, a flower, a cotton swab, a sponge, a leaf, etc.
21. Build an obstacle course with hula hoops, lawn furniture and empty boxes.
22. Tie-dye some t-shirts.
23. Make a magic wand using all available materials.
24. Build a “fairy house” outdoors with sticks, pebbles, pine cones, bark, leaves and other natural materials found outdoors.

**Time to Read Tuesdays**

25. Sign up for your local library’s summer reading program.
27. Read all but the last page of a storybook and ask your children to suggest an ending.
28. Have your child dictate and illustrate a story, and read it together. It’s OK if the story is 1 or 2 sentences long.
29. Make a home video of your child reading a story aloud, or of you reading aloud to your child.
30. After you finish reading a book such as The Lorax, go see the movie.
31. Read some books on a specific topic, such as insects, then do a related activity such as a bug hunt or catching fireflies.
32. Have your child create a summer schedule for the family and read off the schedule every morning.
33. Check out a book of simple science experiments and try some of them at home.
34. Check out a book about a historical figure and play dress-up at home.
35. Have your child write out a checklist for a scavenger hunt, and find everything on the list together.
36. Swap favorite books with your friends.

**What’s Cooking? Wednesday**

37. Fruit smoothies in the blender.
38. No-bake oatmeal cookies on the stove.
40. Spinach-artichoke dip in the blender.
41. Banana muffins.
42. Roll-up sandwiches.
43. Fruit kebabs.
44. Chicken soup in the crock-pot (plug it in on the porch so that it doesn’t heat up the house).
45. Roasted marshmallows.
46. Scrambled eggs and pancakes for dinner.
47. Lemonade from scratch.
Thoughtful Thursday

49. Wash the car together. No driveway and no car? Then wash the toy cars.
50. Call someone just to say hello.
51. Pick some flowers (dandelions and clovers are OK) and give the bouquet to someone who isn’t expecting them.
52. Write a top ten list of a person’s best attributes and give the list as a gift to that person.
53. Write a thank-you letter to someone and mail it.
54. Donate clothing, books and toys to charity.
55. Teach your child to do one chore.
56. Give someone a homemade art project.
57. Volunteer at a food bank.
58. Collect bottles and cans, and donate the money to charity.
59. Take a silent moment and honor a loved one.
60. Hug someone who needs a hug.

Social Skills Saturday

73. Tell a story from your own childhood. Have your child tell a related story from his or her life experience – yes, even if your child is nonverbal.
74. Lie in the grass and take turns looking for shapes or pictures in the clouds.
75. Go around and ask every family member at home the same silly question, and share the answers.
76. Look at some old family photos and name all the people in them.
77. Practice making emotional facial expressions on cue with your child: neutral, happy, sad, fearful, angry, disgusted, surprised. Take turns and make it fun.
78. Practice listening skills by responding only with nonverbal communication for 1 to 5 minutes – then switch roles.
79. Be someone’s mirror: imitate a person’s actions as if you are that person’s reflection in a mirror for 1 minute. Then switch roles.
80. Play Follow the Leader. Match the leader’s pace for as long as possible, then let a new leader take over.
81. Play the statue game: one person freezes like a statue and the other person has to make the statue laugh. Take turns.
82. Develop family traditions: sing a song together, recite a poem, or make some crafts.

Somewhere Fun Friday

61. Petting farm or petting zoo.
62. A playground in a different neighborhood.
63. An art museum – check first to see when general admission is free!
64. The beach.
65. Pick fresh fruit at a local farm or visit the farmer’s market.
66. Ride a train.
67. Find a carnival or a street fair.
68. Ice cream shop.
69. Waterpark or “spray” ground.

About Karen Wang

Karen Wang is a Friendship Circle parent. You may have seen her sneaking into the volunteer lounge for ice cream or being pushed into the cheese pit by laughing children. She is a contributing author to the anthology, "My Baby Rides the Short Bus: The Unabashedly Human Experience of Raising Kids With Disabilities".

Link to the article: http://www.friendshipcircle.org/blog/2012/06/20/82-summer-activities-for-families-with-special-needs/
Summer Resources

Keep your children engaged, active and learning during the summer months
Go to www.Denver365.com to learn about events in Denver

Get your Child the MY DENVER CARD!

Thanks to Denver voters’ overwhelming support of Measure 2A in 2012...

All Denver students ages 5 to 18 now have free, year-round access to the city’s 23 recreation centers and 29 pools with the MY Denver Card.

The MY Denver Card, sponsored by UnitedHealthcare, will also serve as your child’s Denver Public Library card, giving Denver’s children the keys to learning and staying active.

New Benefits Offered

Cultural institutions throughout the city have partnered with MY Denver to give youth and their families discounted admission to enjoy and learn more about what makes Denver great.

Go to DenverGov.org to register your child for the MyDenver Card.
# 2015 SCFD Free Days

These organizations provide free admission to Colorado residents on select days of the year. Free Days 2015 is funded, in part, by the citizens of Adams, Arapahoe, Boulder, Broomfield, Denver, Douglas and Jefferson counties via the SCFD 0.1% sales and use tax.

| Denver Art Museum  
| Museo de Arte de Denver | Denver Botanic Gardens  
| Jardines Botanicos de Denver |
|---|---|
| January 3  
| February 7  
| March 7  
| April 4  
| April 26 (Día de los Niños)  
| May 2  
| June 6  
| July 11  
| August 1  
| September 5  
| September 12  
| October 3  
| November 7  
| December 5 | January 19  
| February 16  
| March 22  
| April 22  
| July 21  
| August 31  
| September 9  
| November 13  
| November 14 |

| Denver Botanic Gardens at Chatfield  
| Jardines Botanicos de Denver en Chatfield | Denver Center for the Performing Arts  
| Centro de Denver para las Artes Interpretativas |
|---|---|
| January 6  
| February 3  
| March 3  
| April 7  
| June 2  
| July 7  
| August 4  
| November 3 | SCFD 10 for $10  
| Each Tuesday at 10am, The Denver Center for the Performing Arts will release a limited number of $10 tickets. Ten seats for every Denver Center Theatre Company performance in the coming week will qualify (up to 25 shows per week). Tickets available by phone (303-893-4100) or in person in the Helen Bonfils Theatre Complex lobby at Speer & Arapahoe. |

| Denver Museum of Nature and Science  
| Museo de Naturaleza y Ciencia de Denver | Denver Zoo  
| Zoologico de Denver |
|---|---|
| January 5  
| January 25  
| March 2  
| April 12 (Earth Day)  
| April 25 (Día del Niño)  
| May 31  
| June 29  
| July 26  
| August 17  
| September 27  
| October 19  
| November 9 | January 11  
| January 12  
| January 22  
| February 6  
| February 7  
| February 19  
| November 2  
| November 13  
| November 19 |
Use these Online Tools, Apps and websites to Help with Summer Learning!

www.graphite.org

Tools to Help with Summer Learning
Use these tools to help manage student learning over the summer.

Brain Academy
Tons of content, but not a "set it and forget it" solution

BrainPOP
Clever animated episodes by Tim and Moby masterfully tackle complex topics

Duolingo
Stellar step-by-step language instruction; skip the day translation work

Scribblenauts Remix
Vocab-building word puzzles inspire creative problem solving

KINDERGARTEN – 3RD

Phonics: alphabet and letter sounds: www.starfall.com
This site has many children’s books to read: www.magickeys.com


ALL GRADE LEVELS—ELEMENTARY

Reading: www.readingfrantic.com | www.readanybook.com This website requires to create a free account with a valid e-mail.

Math: www.multiplication.com | www.sheppardsoftware.com

Math & Science: www.softschools.com
K-12 Summer Reading List

Keep your children engaged, active and learning during the summer months
Learning Ally is a national non-profit organization in existence since 1948. With roots in recording for disabled veterans returning from World War I, Learning Ally has grown and developed into an organization that helps children and adults access reading through human-recorded audio books.

Learning Ally currently offers over 80,000 titles, including textbooks, classic titles, popular fiction, and many more Common Core materials to students with print-based disabilities.

Through a gift from the Denver Foundation, all DPS schools have unlimited access to Learning Ally's audiobooks. To determine if your child qualifies for Learning Ally, please contact your DPS Special Education teacher. You may also visit us at www.learningally.org/dps for more information.
Kindergarten & First Grade Reading List

Literature
- **Are You My Mother?** P.D. Eastman, Lexile: 80
- **Green Eggs and Ham** Dr. Seuss, Lexile: 30
- **Put me in the Zoo** Robert Lopshire, Lexile: 150
- **Frog and Toad Together** (I Can Read Picture Book), Arnold Lobel, Lexile: 330
- **Owl at Home** (I Can Read Book 2), Arnold Lobel, Lexile: 370
- **Hi! Fly Guy** (Theodor Seuss Geisel Honor Book Awards), Tedd Arnold, Lexile: 280
- **Poppleton in Winter**, Cynthia Rylant, Lexile: 360
- **Cowgirl Kate and Cocoa**, Erica Silverman, Lexile: 390

Informational Texts
- **My Five Senses** (Let’s-Read-and-Find-Out Science 1), Aliki
- **A Weed is a Flower: The Life of George Washington Carver**, Aliki

Second Grade and Third Grade Reading List

Literature
- **My Father’s Dragon**, Ruth Stiles Gannett, Lexile: 990
- **The Stories Julian Tells**, Ann Cameron, Lexile: 520
- **Sarah, Plain and Tall**, Patricia MacLachlan, Lexile: 560
- **Henry and Mudge: The First Book of Their Adventures**, Cythia Rylant, Lexile: 420
- **Tops and Bottoms**, Janet Stevens, Lexile: 580
- **The Raft**, Jim LaMarche, Lexile: 540

Informational Texts
- **A Medieval Feast**, Aliki, Lexile: 840
- **From Seed to Plant**, Gail Gibbons, Lexile: 660
- **Bats: Creatures of the Night**, Joy ce Milton, Lexile: 510
- **So You Want to Be President?** Judith St. George, Lexile: 730
- **Boy, Were We Wrong About Dinosaurs**, Kathleen V. Kudlinski, Lexile: 900
- **Moonshot: The Flight of Apollo 11**, Brian Floca, Lexile: 990

Fourth Grade and Fifth Grade Reading List

Literature
- **Alice’s Adventures in Wonderland**, Lewis Carroll, Lexile: 590
- **The Secret Garden**, Frances Hodgson Burnett, Lexile: 970
- **The Black Stallion**, Walter Farley, Lexile: 930
- **The Little Prince**, Antoine de Saint-Exupéry, Lexile: 710
- **Tuck Everlasting**, Natalie Babbitt, Lexile: 770
- **M.C. Higgins, the Great**, Virginia Hamilton, Lexile: 620
- **The Birchbark House**, Louise Erdrich, Lexile: 970
- **Where the Mountain Meets the Moon**, Grace Lin, Lexile: 820

Informational Texts
- **Hurricanes: Earth’s Mightiest Storms**, Patricia Lauber, Lexile: 930
- **Horses**, Seymour Simon, Lexile: 930
- **Quest for the Tree Kangaroo: An Expedition to the Cloud Forest of New Guinea**, Sy Montgomery, Lexile Level: 830
- **Volcanoes**, Simon Seymour, Lexile Level: 930
- **We Are the Ship: The Story of Negro League Baseball**, Kadir Nelson, Lexile Level: 900
Sixth Grade Reading List

**Literature**
- *The House on Mango Street* by Sandra Cisneros Lexile: 800-890
- *Island of the Blue Dolphins* by Scott O’Dell Lexile: 1000
- *Bud, Not Buddy* by Christopher Paul Curtis Lexile: 950
- *Bad Boy: A Memoir* by Walter Dean Myers Lexile: 970
- *Any Small Goodness: a novel of the barrio* by Johnston Tony Lexile: 600
- *Begging for Change* by Sharon Flake Lexile: 1060

**Nonfiction**
- *Before Columbus* by Charles C. Mann Lexile: 1080
- *Sojourner Truth: Ain’t I a Woman?* by Pat McKissack Lexile: 960
- *Superstars* by David Aguilar Lexile: 1160

Seventh Grade Reading List

**Literature**
- *Witness* by Karen Hesse Lexile: Not Available
- *Parrot in the Oven: Mi Vida* by Victor Martinez Lexile: 1000
- *White Lilacs* by Carolyn Meyer Lexile: 990
- *The Red Pony* by John Steinbeck Lexile: 810
- *The Sword in the Stone* by T.H. White Lexile: 1120

**Nonfiction**
- *Anne Frank: The Diary of a Young Girl* by Anne Frank Lexile: 1080
- *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Houston and James D. Houston Lexile: 1040
- *Boy: Tales of Childhood* by Roald Dahl Lexile: 1090

Eighth Grade

**Literature**
- *Tears of a Tiger* by Sharon Drape Lexile: 700
- *Speak* by Laurie Halse Anderson Lexile: 690
- *The Hobbit* by J.R.R. Tolkien Lexile: 1000L
- *Monster* by Walter Dean Myers Lexile: 670L

**Nonfiction**
- *The 7 Habits of Highly Effective Teens* by Sean Covey Lexile: 870
- *Heart and Soul: The Story of America and African Americans* by Kadir Nelson Lexile: 1050

9th and 10th Grade Reading List

**Poetry**
- *Final Harvest* Poems by Emily Dickinson Lexile: Not Available
- *The Raven and other favorite poems* by Edgar Allan Poe Lexile: Not Available
- *The Dream Keeper and other poems* by Langston Hughes Lexile: Not Available
9th and 10th Grade Reading List

**Literature**
- **To Kill a Mockingbird** by Harper Lee Lexile Level: 870L
- **The Catcher in the Rye** by J.D. Salinger Lexile Level: 690L
- **Lord of the Flies** by William Golding Lexile Level: 770
  *1984* by George Orwell Lexile Level: N/A (*Warning: Contains sequence of graphic violence)

**Drama**
- **The Glass Menagerie** by Tennessee Williams Lexile Level: Not Available
- **MacBeth** (The Pelican Shakespeare) by William Shakespeare Lexile Level: Not Available

**Nonfiction**
- **Malcolm X: By Any Means Necessary** by Walter Dean Myers Lexile Level: 1050
- **Night** by Elie Weasel Lexile Level: 590L
- **Years of Dust: The Story of the Dust Bowl** by Albert Marrin Lexile Level: 1040

11th and 12th Grade

**Poetry**
- **The 100 Best Poems of All Time** by Leslie Pockell Lexile Level: Not Available
- **The Poetry of Pablo Neruda** by Pablo Neruda Lexile Level: Not Available
- **Poems** by Maya Angelou Lexile Level: Not Available

**Literature**
- **Ceremony** by Leslie Silko Lexile Level: Not Available
- **The Heart is a Lonely Hunter** by Carson McCullers Lexile Level: 760L
- **Their Eyes were Watching God** by Zora Neale Hurston Lexile Level: 1080L

**Drama**
- **A Raisin in the Sun** by Lorraine Hansberry Lexile Level: Not Available
- **Hamlet** by William Shakespeare Lexile Level: 1390L
- **Rosencrantz and Guildenstern are Dead** by Tom Stoppard Lexile Level: Not Available

**Nonfiction**
- **In Cold Blood** by Truman Capote Lexile Level: 1040L
- **Bury my Heart at Wounded Knee** by Dee Brown Lexile Level: 1080L
About Us

The Office of Family and Community Engagement (FACE) fosters a school community that is educated, engaged, and empowered to share the responsibility in creating thriving schools where every child succeeds.

We believe that family and community involvement is critical to the success of every student and that students with engaged families are more likely to succeed academically.

Who We Are

FACE’s work includes programs and support for students as well as families, which yields a greater impact and positive results.

» **In-School Support**: Increasing academic achievement is a high priority for this department. FACE continues to make a tangible difference in the academic achievement of students through targeted intervention strategies in the areas of attendance, math, literacy and workforce investment.

- Academic Tutoring
- Resource Referrals
- Daily AmeriCorps Attendance Support
- Parent-Teacher Leadership Teams
- AmeriCorps Math Fellows Tutoring
- Power Lunch Reading Program
- Student Job Shadows and Internships
- Student Mentorships

» **Extended Learning Opportunities**: Learning shouldn’t stop at school. Families benefit from access to academic opportunities outside of school hours and during the school year to address those most affected by the opportunity gap.

- Summer Literacy Camps
- Afterschool Program Support
- Summer Math Camps

» **Home Learning Support**: Parents and families can be partners in their children’s education. By providing opportunities for education and engagement such as trainings and programs, we empower our families to be advocates for themselves and for their students.

- Parent Teacher Home Visit
- Parent Engagement Guide
- Family Constituency Services
- Parent Portal Training
- Educational & Cultural Visit Program
- Positive Attendance Calls
- Student Portal Training
- Academic Standards Training
- Parenting Partners
- Parent Leadership Training
- Energy Efficiency Support and Services
- Positive phone calls Home

» **Opportunities for Family Involvement**: Research shows that students with engaged families are more likely to be successful. Families are able to learn more about their student’s education and the district, involving them at critical levels to support continued success.

- Volunteering at Summer Camps
- Superintendent Parent Forum
- Parent Education Awards
- Community Meetings
- School Volunteer Opportunities in Classrooms
- Parent Portal Training
- Great Schools Community Conversations
- English Language Acquisition District Advisory Committee

» **Adult Self-Sufficiency**: Many of our families may be new to the country or were unable to complete their education. Our programs share services that can support our families in their path to self-sufficiency and achieving their own life goals.

- English Language Acquisition
- GED
- Financial Literacy
- Workforce Development
- Resource Referrals
- Job Placement
- Legal Services
- Career Tech Ed Job Site Tours
- Work-Based Learning
- Family Support

*For more information about FACE go to: face.dpsk12.org or call 720-423-3054*