



Wilson Elementary 2024

Dear Families,

It is our goal at Wilson to help every student become a skilled reader who develops a life-long love of reading. Throughout the school year, we do everything possible to accomplish this goal by providing explicit instruction, high-interest reading materials, time to read, and time for students to talk about their reading with others. We appreciate all you do to support your child's reading at home.

Research shows, however, that children can experience "summer reading loss" over the months when school is not in session. Studies have shown that some children can experience up to a 3-month loss in reading level. One study of first, second, and third graders in a middle-class neighborhood found that nearly 45% of the students declined in decoding skills and 25% of the students declined in fluency over the summer.

We want to ensure that this does not happen to our students! We know that many families have the best intentions, but our busy lives take over and before we know it, the summer has come to an end. Therefore, we have created different resources, programs and book lists to encourage families to make **time** for reading and literacy activities over the summer months.

We all know summer will pass quickly. Setting goals and establishing the habit of keeping track of our reading can help each child maintain the skills and habits that he/she has worked so hard to develop over the school year. **We hope you will join us in this effort to help your child continue to grow as a reader over the summer!**

Most Sincerely,

Tiffany Wrolstad
Literacy Specialist

Summer Reading Contract



We all know that it is very important to make time for reading this summer. Talk to a parent/teacher about how you will fit reading into your summer.

What will you read? When will you read and with whom will you read? Together with your families, choose and write at least three plans or goals for how you will fit reading into your life this summer. You can use the calendar below to keep track of what you do to meet your goals.

- 1.
- 2.
- 3.

At the end of summer, return the signed contract to Tiffany Wrolsta, Literacy Specialist, to show that you completed your goals and you will be rewarded with a **new book!** Returning the signed contract lets us know that your child not only read over the summer, but also focused on specific reading goals.

Yes, I accomplished my goals on my Summer Reading Contract!

Student First and Last Name (please print)

2023-2024 Grade Level

Parent signature

Date

Ideas for Goal Setting

- Read __ times a week
- Read before bedtime, when you get up, or after breakfast __ times a week
- Participate in the public library program or a book club with some friends
- Attend a summer school reading class or read with a tutor __ times per week
- Have a neighborhood book swap or swap books at a Little Free Library
- Research a topic such as a vacation spot, a hobby, an animal, or any topic
- Read __ books in a series or read __ books by your favorite author
- Check out new books every week from the library and read them

June 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				6 Last Day of School	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30						

July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
				1	2	3
4	5	6	7	8	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

Summer Literacy Tips



- **Create a summer routine.** Create a drop-everything-and-read time and then abide by your own decisions and join in with your own books, because we know that children who see adults read, read more themselves
- **Embrace audio books.** Audiobooks are a constant companion. They cut down on our kids arguing, create conversation, and become a part of our summer memories. Check out the books we have available on SORA!
- **Have your own to-be-read list.** Go book shopping or virtual book shopping with your kids and create a list of books you all hope to read this summer. Build excitement for the act of reading together.
- **Make it social.** One of the biggest joys of summer is hanging out with people, so why not add books to it? Perhaps every Sunday night is declared “Books and milkshakes” and you have a zoom meeting with friends. Perhaps you create book picnics or host a book club yourself outside. Perhaps you engage in a friendly competition with each other to see who will finish their book first, no cheating. Reading can be a social event, don’t force it to be solitary all of the time.
- **Embrace real choice.** So your child wants to read the same book all summer? Ok. So your child wants to read super easy books all summer? Ok. So your child wants to read only one type of book all summer? Ok. Summers are for great reading experiences, for having fun with your reading, for keeping the joy of reading alive. We can work on challenging texts later.
- **Be invested and interested.** Ask genuine questions about their reading experiences. Share your own. Embrace your reading slumps together and do something about them together. Ask questions about what they plan on reading, whether they like the book or not, or what made them pick that book. Keep it light but keep it constant.
- **Keep it joyful.** We often lose readers over the summer because it is seen as a chore, so keep it light, keep it fun. Don’t assign journal prompts or summaries to go with it. Don’t make it homework, but instead revel in the joyful experience that reading a great book can be.



Resources for Summer Reading

- Common Sense Media best [learning apps](#)
- Resources for practicing [phonemic awareness skills](#) over the summer
- Florida Center for Reading Research has [activities](#) for students in pre-K through grade 5
 - Access district [Sora](#) to get access to books digitally for free!
 - Steps for logging in:
 - Click the link above
 - Select find my school - use your location
 - Click on Mequon - Thiensville Elementary Schools
 - Then search for Mequon - Thiensville
 - Students must login using their school Google account
- Go on a [Day Trip for Book Lovers](#)
- [Wonderopolis](#) is a place where the wonders of learning never cease
- Head to [Start with a Book](#) for ideas for fun and meaningful interactions around books and things of kid interest
- [Wide Open School](#) has lots of reading and writing ideas

Summer Reading Programs

- [Frank L. Weyenberg Public Library Summer Reading Program](#)
- [Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge](#)

Summer Reading Book Lists by Suggested Age/Grade

*Common Sense Media is a great resource to determine what books/content work best for your family.

- [Scholastic Summer Reading Lists by age](#)
- [Brightly](#)
- [Imagination Soup](#)