



Preventing the Summer Slide Resources

Writing

<https://storybird.com/> lets you make visual stories with writing prompts and quizzes.

For all age groups.

<https://www.writeabout.com/> features a variety of ideas on getting started on writing.

<https://www.mystorybook.com/> lets you create your own storybook with drawings and pictures.

Math

<https://www.mathcounts.org/> has problems of the week for summertime math activities and practices.

<https://www.mathplayground.com/> uses games to practice addition, subtraction up to pre-algebra. It also has logic games, word problems, and puzzles.

<https://www.learn-with-math-games.com/> is a fun and creative site that is all about teaching kids' math through games.

<https://www.militaryonesource.mil/> has suggestions and printables that you can download for road trip games, printable maps, puzzles, and much more.

<https://www.khanacademy.org/> offers videos on a wide variety of subjects for all kids K-12.

Science

<http://discoverymindblown.com/> is a great resource for all ages with games and videos.

<https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/> is the National Geographic kids website with games, videos and lots of information on a variety of topics.

<https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html> is the kids' version of NASA with downloads, games, and many fascinating facts.

<https://www.nasa.gov/> is a resource for older kids and adults.

<https://learninglab.si.edu/> Smithsonian Learning Lab puts the treasures of the world's largest museum, education, and research complex within reach. The Lab is a free, interactive platform of knowledge and learning.

For More Information: Parents@MilitaryChild.org



Preventing the Summer Slide

Five Finger Rule

Open the book to the middle. Choose a full page of words. Read the page out loud, and hold up a finger each time they come to a word they don't know.

One finger (thumb): Thumbs up! Great book choice, this will be easy reading.

Two fingers (thumb and index finger): Makes an L, still Looking good! Enjoy.

Three fingers (makes a W): Warning! This book may be best when read along with someone.

Four or more fingers (whole hand): Stop! This book may be too tough to enjoy alone. Ask an adult or older sibling to read this book to you.

Finding the right book may involve a little bit of extra work, but it's worth it in the end.

Adapted from "Selecting Books for Your Child" by Reading Rockets: <https://www.readingrockets.org/article/selecting-books-your-child-finding-just-right-books> and <https://cfsd.chipfalls.k12.wi.us/faculty/ericksjl/5%20finger%20rule.pdf>

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Preventing the Summer Slide

Finding the Right Book

Finding the right book for your child means finding something your child wants to read AND making sure it's at the right level for your child. Advice for both is below:

“I can't find anything to read!”

Libraries and bookstores are full of good books, yet sometimes it's hard for a child to find something to read. Genre and authors can help.

Genre: Think of genre as categories or types of books. Identifying what type, or genre, of book your reader enjoys can lead to them to certain shelves or areas. For example, does your reader like action and adventure? Fantasy? Graphic novels? Mystery? Start book searches by looking for new books within a favorite genre.

Author: Stumbling on a new author can be a treasure trove of new titles! Find a book your child particularly enjoys and see if that author has written other books. It's also fun to search online to see if that author has a website. Many authors do, and some include games, facts, and other interesting information to keep a reader engaged.

“This book is too hard! This book is too easy!”

Ensuring that a book is at the right reading level for your child can be a challenge. Parents often seek a “just right” book: not too hard, but not too easy. When looking for books for your child to read on his own, try the 5-finger rule with them.

Check out this video: “Five Finger Rule” (3:45)

Models how to use the Five Finger Rule to select a Just Right book.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IHESiWCOXyk>

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Regular reading impacts a child's success at school.
If not addressed early the educational gap widens...

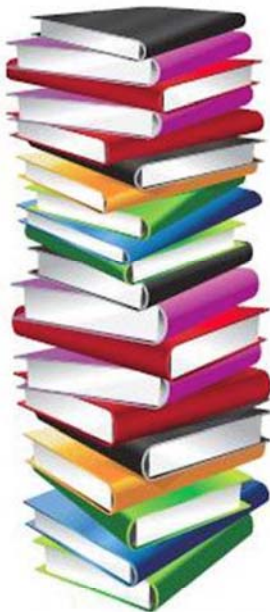
Child A



Reads 20 minutes per day

3,600 minutes per school year

1,800,000 words per school year



Scores in the 90th percentile

Child B



Reads 5 minutes per day

900 minutes per school year

282,000 words per school year



Scores in the 50th percentile

Child C



Reads 1 minute per day

180 minutes per school year

8,000 words per school year



Scores in the 10th percentile

Standardised Test Scores

By the end of grade 6, Child A will have read the equivalent of 60 school days, Child B will have read for 12 school days and Child C will have read for 3 days. Nagy and Herman, 1987.

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MCEC COVID-19 Resources for PARENTS

All Grades K-12

Find additional resources at www.MilitaryChild.org

Various Subjects

[Adapting to a Virtual Learning Environment](#) A virtual learning environment is a new experience for many military-connected children. In this webinar we identify the challenges of virtual learning, followed by discussing ways to balance learning in a home setting. We also share best practices for school-aged children and youth to help create a successful virtual learning experience.

[Audiobooks for Kids](#) Blog post with ways to find free or inexpensive audiobooks.

[Create and Publish Storybooks](#) StoryBird is a social storytelling site helps kids create, publish storybooks. It helps develop students' writing and digital citizenship skills through storybook creation.

[Educational Netflix Shows](#) List of 30 educational shows streaming on Netflix grouped by elementary, middle, and high school.

[Educational Resources/Subscriptions](#) and [Education Companies Offering Free Subscriptions](#) Lists of companies offering free subscriptions because of school closings. Please be aware that several companies put limitations on free subscriptions.

[Educational Sites](#) List of 40 educational sites that challenge kids' minds, teaching everything from chemistry to reading comprehension.

[Health, PE](#) Free on-demand programs available on YMCA360.org include some of the Y's most popular group exercise classes including kids' activities or youth sports performance.

[Learning Resource for All Subjects](#) Khan Academy has exercises, videos and articles for students in every grade level. Parents and teachers can also use the teacher tools to monitor progress and assign specific work. This could be made even more powerful if it is complemented with Google Hangout, Zoom or Skype video conference sessions with teachers and classmates. [Sample Schedules](#) for grades K-12.

[Projects, Activities for All Ages](#) Lists service projects you can do from home.

[Read Print](#) is a free online library that contains thousands of novels, poems, plays, and stories in the public domain. You can search for books by author, title, or genre.

[Read, Write, Think](#) has free lesson plans, resources, practices in reading and language arts instruction for grades K-12.

[Reading and Learning Activities](#) Scholastic Learn at Home has day-by-day projects to keep kids reading, thinking and growing. Every day includes learning experiences, each built around a thrilling, meaningful story or video. Kids can do them on their own or with their families. Grade levels are: PreK and K; Grades 1-2; Grades 3-5; Grades 6-9.

[Tutoring](#) Tutor.com offers help for all age groups, skill levels and subjects. Free for eligible Military Families.

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STEM

[Aquarium](#) Watch jellyfish, penguins, sea otters and more live at the Monterey Bay Aquarium. Learn about marine life and habitats.

[Coding, Computer Skills](#) Scratch lets you program your own interactive stories, games, and animations — and share your creations with others in the online community. Scratch is a project of the Lifelong Kindergarten Group at the MIT Media Lab. It is provided free of charge.

[Discovery](#) Discovery Mindblown has science videos and episodes for all ages.

[Math](#) Math Game Time offers PreK-7th grade math games, videos and worksheets.

[Math](#) Math Playground has math games and logic puzzles for Grades 1-6.

[National Geographic Kids](#) Science, nature, experiments and more. Also has a [Homework Help](#) resource.

[Science](#) Let's Talk Science and Space has resources and project ideas for all ages.

[Science at Home](#) The California Science Center has many suggestions on using household supplies to conduct experiments at home.

[Smithsonian](#) offers a science game center and many other topics that kids can explore.

[STEM Resources for At-Home](#) Ideas for helping stay curious and learn science and engineering concepts, including an editable STEM calendar with activities. Requires an email to subscribe to their site. Once you sign up, you'll get a password to unlock the resources and activities.

Additional Resources

[COVID-19 Home Education Resources on Facebook](#)

[Educational Apps, Games, Websites](#) Common Sense Media has a plethora of tips and tools to adapting to at-home learning, including tips for virtual learning, resources for digital citizenship, building a daily schedule, activities and more.

[Military Kids Connect](#) is an online community for military children ages 6-17. It gives access to age-appropriate resources to support children dealing with the unique psychological challenges of military life.

[Military OneSource](#) has a wealth of information for Military Families, including online learning resources while schools are closed. It also offers counseling help: 800-342-9647 or live chat 24/7. Check out Military OneSource on Facebook.

[Schedule Maker](#) or [Schedule Builder](#)

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Additional Resources

Preventing the Summer Slide During COVID-19 Webinar

Resources for Virtual Summer Experiences:

Blue Star Families—check out this site for upcoming summer fun activities

<https://bluestarfam.org/>

Museums with virtual tours:

<https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>

Check out these websites for free camps on a variety of topics:

<https://www.parents.com/fun/activities/outdoor/free-virtual-summer-camps-2020/>

<https://parade.com/1037196/jessicasager/virtual-summer-camps/>

Free virtual rides at Walt Disney World Theme Parks

<https://orlandoonthecheap.com/free-virtual-rides-disney/>

Videos shared:

Slowing the 'COVID-19 slide' over summer break

<https://youtu.be/lqntVUONyQQ>

GMA Virtual Summer Camps

<https://abcn.ws/3bUvUXx>

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Additional Resources

Preventing the Summer Slide During COVID-19 Webinar

Webinars related to today's topic:

www.militarychild.org/webinars

Helping Military Families Cope with COVID-19

College Admissions in COVID-19 Pandemic

Adapting to a Virtual Learning Environment

Growth Mindset

Academic Portfolios for Children of All Ages

Screen time: Establishing Boundaries

SLO—A Resource for Military Families

Find your local area School Liaison Officer:

<https://www.dodea.edu/Partnership/schoolLiaisonOfficers.cfm>

Parent Tool Kit is a one stop shop that was produced and developed with parents in mind

www.parenttoolkit.com

SchoolQuest—a free interactive tool that was specially designed to support highly mobile military families and students

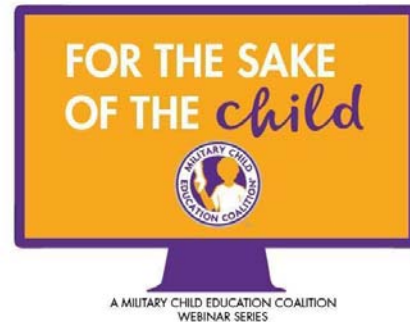
<https://schoolquest.militarychild.org>

DoD –MWR Summer Reading Program—Summer reading 2020 at DoD-MWR libraries centers around a theme of investigation and exploration: Dig Deeper: Read, Investigate, Discover!

<https://www.ila.org/dodsumread>

National Park Foundation—Take a virtual visit to a National Park no matter where you are!

<https://www.nationalparks.org/connect/blog/take-virtual-visit-national-park>



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