

Dear Parents:

I am very excited to have your child in my class for first grade. Attached are two short book report forms for your child to complete before first grade (I attached a few suggestions for books, but your child can pick a book of his or her choice, not only from the list.) Depending on your child's level, you may need to help them write his or her report. I also attached some activities to practice first grade sight words, as well as a list of words. In the past, some parents have asked me if I had any additional activities or practice for the summer. If you are interested in a packet of various activities and worksheets for the summer, please indicate it below and I will send one home for you. This additional packet is not mandatory, so I am not sending it to everyone.

Thank you so much,

Mrs. Lisachenko

_____ Yes, I am interested in receiving a Ready Made for First grade fun summer practice packet. My child is

_____.

READ YOUR WAY INTO 1ST GRADE!

This is a collection of books your soon-to-be first grader might enjoy! You can find these books at your local public library.

<i>First Grade, Here I Come!</i> by Nancy Carlson	<i>Chrysanthemum</i> by Kevin Henkes
<i>If You Give a Mouse a Cookie</i> by Laura Numeroff	<i>Frog and Toad</i> by Arnold Lobel
<i>The Listening Walk</i> by Paul Showers	<i>Bad Kitty</i> by Nick Bruel
<i>Mister Seahorse</i> by Eric Carle	<i>Olivia Series</i> by Ian Falconer
<i>Beatrice Doesn't Want To</i> by Laura Numeroff	<i>Me I Am</i> by Jack Prelutsky
<i>Elephant and Piggie Series</i> by Mo Willems	<i>Fox and His Friends Series</i> by James Marshall
<i>Ruby the Copycat</i> by Margaret Rathmann	<i>Biscuit Series</i> by Alyssa Capucilli
<i>A Bad Case of the Stripes</i> by David Shannon	<i>More Spaghetti I Say!</i> by Rita Gelman

Tips for Preventing the Summer Slide



Studies show that children who do not read or have access to books during the summer lose up to 2 months of reading performance. Those losses accumulate during the elementary school years so that by the time a child enters middle school he/she may be 2 1/2 years behind! All children, whether from low, middle or upper income families, may fall victim to the "summer slide" if not provided with summer reading opportunities. So how do we prevent the summer slide—or even accelerate reading growth? Here are a few ideas:

- 1** Visit your local library! Help your child find "right fit" books. Right fit books are books that are of high interest to your child and are not beyond their reading level. You can use the five finger test to determine if the book is too difficult for your child. Open the book to a page with many words. Have your child begin reading the text. Hold up a finger for each word he/she does not know. If you have 4 or 5 fingers up, the text may be too difficult for your child to read independently. Feel free to still check out the book! It just may be a book you want to read with your child.
- 2** Be sure your child reads at least 20 minutes a day. According to research, a child who reads only 1 minute a day outside of school will learn 8,000 words by the end of sixth grade where a student who reads 20 minutes outside of school will learn 1,800,000 words! That's huge! If reading isn't one of your child's top priorities, you may need to set up an incentive program.
- 3** Set a good example. When your child sees you reading and enjoying a book or a newspaper article, you are sending a message that reading is important and valuable.
- 4** Read to your child. When you read to your child, he/she hears the rhythm of language. Be sure to read with expression! Changing your voice for different characters and increasing your volume during exciting parts are only a few ways to keep children engaged.
- 5** Read with your child—explore different types of reading such as poetry. For our little ones, poetry is a great way to improve phonemic awareness skills as poetry often incorporates rhyme. For our older children, poetry is a means of improving fluency.
- 6** Read for different purposes. Reading directions for a recipe or directions for assembling a toy are fun ways of incorporating reading into everyday activities.
- 7** Play games with words. Commercial games such as Apples to Apples improves vocabulary. You can easily turn a game of hopscotch or 4 square into a game that incorporates learning letters or sight words. Be sure to check out the "8 Super Summer Sight Word Activities" on the Make, Take & Teach blog.
- 8** If you have access to an iPad, there are tons of interactive books and apps that address phonics and early reading skills. There are also many websites that offer free reading related games.

Have a happy and healthy summer! Be sure to read, read and read some more! Not only can we prevent the summer slide, we can accelerate reading growth.



For more teaching ideas and activities be sure to visit our blog! www.blog.maketaketeach.com

a SUMMERY book!

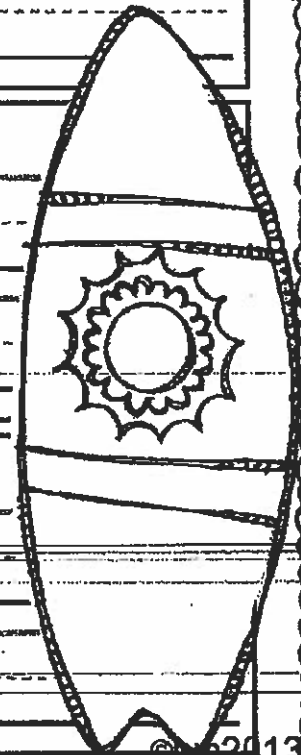
What is the title of the book?

Who are the characters?

Where is the setting?

What is the problem?

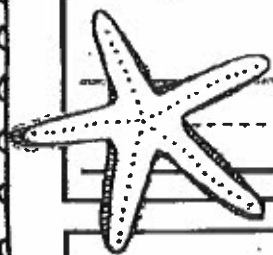
What is the solution?



Sweet Summertime!

Title of Book

Who was in this story?



What was your favorite part?



Sight Word Practice Activities

Concentration:

This game is like the traditional Concentration or Memory games.

- **Materials:** You will need two sets of the high-frequency word cards.
- **How to Play:** Shuffle the cards and place them face down in rows. Players take turns flipping two cards over. If the words match, the player keeps the cards and takes another turn. As your child becomes more familiar with a set of words, add additional pairs of cards to challenge their recognition of high-frequency words.

Board Game:

This is a traditional board game played with high-frequency words.

- **Materials:** You will need a numbered spinner, button markers, and a simple oval or s-shaped "follow the path" grid. Write a high-frequency word on each square of the grid.
- **How to Play:** Players spin a number, move that many spaces, read the high-frequency word, and then use the word in a sentence. If successful, the player remains on that square. If not, he or she must return to the previous square.

High-Frequency Word Bingo:

This game is played like traditional Bingo.

- **Materials:** Cut out a set of high-frequency word cards, then make bingo cards with a grid of nine or twelve squares. You will also need button or bingo markers.
- **How to Play:** Write a list of high-frequency words on the board. Have players randomly write a word in each square on their bingo card. Shuffle the deck of word cards, and have the players take turns choosing a card and reading the word aloud. Players use a marker to cover the word on their bingo card. Play continues until someone gets a "bingo."

Say It! Match It!

In this game, children say and look for matches of high-frequency words.

- **Materials:** You will need two sets of the high-frequency word cards.
- **How to Play:** Choose two players and give each a set of word cards. Each player turns a card face up from his or her stack at the same time. If the words match, the first person to call out the word and say "Match!" gets the pair. Discard piles are reshuffled and play resumes until all the cards are gone.

Word Search

This game, children find matches of high-frequency words.

- **Materials:** Create a game board with a 5x5 boxed grid, then write a high-frequency word in each of the 25 boxes. Make a set of 25 cards with corresponding high-frequency words. You can use words more than once. You will also need 25 button markers.
- **How to Play:** The first player takes a card from the stack, and then places his or her marker on a corresponding space on the grid only if he or she correctly recognizes and reads the word.

I	Am	The	little	A	to	have	is
We	my	like	he	for	me	with	she
See	look	they	you	of	are	that	do
One	Two	three	four	five	here	go	from
Yellow	blue	green	what	said	was	where	come

First Grade Reading Sight Words - Student List

in	your	out	family
on	home	people	new
way	into	who	other
and	many	work	some
take	them	down	their
up	catch	inside	always
get	good	now	become
help	no	together	day
use	put	there	everything
eat	want	around	nothing
her	be	find	stays
this	could	food	things
too	horse	grow	any
saw	old	water	enough
small	paper	under	ever
tree	live	also	own

sure	know	colors	touch
were	push	draw	picture
away	visit	drew	remember
car	wait	great	room
friends	before	over	stood
house	does	show	thought
our	good-bye	sign	across
school	oh	found	because
very	right	mouth	dance
afraid	won't	once	only
again	about	took	opened
few	enjoy	wild	shoes
how	gives	above	told
read	surprise	eight	along
soon	worry	laugh	behind
done	would	moon	eyes

never	instead	learn
pulled	none	science
toward	against	through
door	goes	answered
loved	heavy	brothers
should	kinds	carry
wood	today	different
among	built	poor
another	early	