

HOW TO KEEP ACADEMICALLY FRESH THIS SUMMER!

MATH –

- practice your times facts when you are in the car on the way to the beach or park
- mow the lawn or walk the neighbor's dog. Keep track of the amount of time it takes and see if you can improve your time
- earn an allowance by doing a given amount of chores during the week
- spend some money and make sure you count the change
- make cookies
- calculate the number of calories in each cookie given the total amount of ingredients
- do the number puzzles in the newspaper
- use a pedometer to see how many steps you walk during a day. Calculate how many steps you would take in a week, a month, a year.
- Try <http://www.aaamath.com/>
- Try <http://resources.kaboose.com/games/math2.html>
- Find math in playing outside – play around the world, play hopscotch, jump rope, ride bikes, swim laps, run races

READING and WRITING and SPEAKING –

- Visit the community library
- Use some of the money you earn for a trip to the bookstore
- Garage sale books are wonderful reads
- After reading a good story, paraphrase it in a letter to a grandparent or friend
- Make up rhymes and put them to music
- Read the newspaper or a magazine
- Read travel brochures and menus when out and about with the family
- Be aware of your surroundings so you can tell others where you've been and what you did
- Try <http://www.timeforkids.com/TFK/>
- Try <http://www.scholastic.com/kids/>
- Check out <http://pbskids.org/>
- Also <http://pbskids.org/cyberchase/http://www.eduplace.com/kids/>
- Play a board game with a friend or two
- Invent a new card game or tweak the directions for an old one
- Do walk and read on the track
- When you write a story, remember all the key elements we worked so hard on this year: fabulous lead, pick one or two details to describe thoroughly (using senses and no dead words!), use transition words when beginning new paragraphs, write like you are talking to your best friend, and have a conclusion.
- Check out your favorite author at <http://falcon.jmu.edu/~ramseyil/biochildhome.htm#R> or http://dir.yahoo.com/Arts/Humanities/Literature/Authors/Children_s/
- Read a book, then watch the movie with the same title. Do a compare and contrast of the two

SCIENCE –

- Explore the world around your own backyard
- Found an insect or bird you can't identify? Look in an insect or bird book.
- Try science workshop at KAMSC
- Build a rocket and launch it
- Ask a million questions all beginning with WHY?
- Try a science experiment or check out <http://www.fatlion.com/science/>
- This is another great kid friendly science site
<http://sciencespot.net/Pages/kidzone.html>
- Also check out <http://www.hhmi.org/coolscience/>
- This site is remarkable – everything you'd ever need to know for science or math – you have to see this one http://www.kids.gov/k_science.htm

SOCIAL STUDIES -

- Travel!
- When you venture out and about, ask questions about the destination
- Make sure family vacations include historically significant areas
- Go to a museum
- Learn Schoolcraft history at the library or
<http://www.rootsweb.com/~mikalama/schoolcrafthistory.htm>
- Visit the Underground Railroad House in town
- View the website http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Schoolcraft,_Michigan and its links for local historical information
- Make a map for the family outing at <http://www.mapquest.com/>
- See if there are any national parks in or near the state you will travel to at
<http://www.nps.gov/>
- Send postcards to friends and family back home
- Read a map when you travel!
- Find the latitude and longitude when you travel!
- Predict and then calculate the number of miles you will travel!