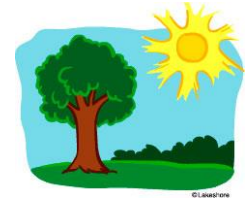




Bellevue Children's Academy

Summer Study Guide

Incoming 1st Grade – Summer 2024



At Bellevue Children's Academy, we recommend that children reinforce what they learned during the school year by engaging in educational activities over the summer. Our Summer Study Guide contains suggestions for fun ways to bring a little "school" into your child's summer and prepare him or her for First Grade.

English

Children should read at least twenty minutes a day. You can read to them, with them, or they can read by themselves. A great way to encourage daily reading is to join the wonderful Summer Reading Program sponsored by the King County Library System. (If you do not live in King County, visit your local library to learn more about available summer programs.) Students are encouraged to read 1,000 minutes over the course of the summer. This may seem like a lot, but when you break it down, it comes out to approximately twenty minutes a day for a little over a month and a half. Encourage your child to discuss or report on what they have read. After reading a story, have them identify the main character, share three events from the story, and discern whether the story was fiction or non-fiction and how they know. This will reinforce their reading comprehension skills. Students can also create their own diorama box to showcase the setting in their story!

To keep writing skills sharp, encourage him or her to write stories in a journal, use his or her imagination--or just chronicle the fun adventures he or she has over the summer. Your child can also write a food review after eating out at a restaurant or write letters to friends and relatives!

Any kind of letter or phonics games will also help reinforce sounds, words, and grammar. Handwriting or grammar books from the bookstore are helpful, too. Look for first grade level workbooks for review and second grade level workbooks for a challenge.

If you have travel plans this summer, we encourage you to help your child write a postcard to a friend or family member!

Social Studies

Children can practice their social studies skills by looking at a map or globe, finding places they have traveled to, where relatives or friends live, or where they might be visiting this summer. Children can also make their own maps of their bedroom, backyard, local park, or neighborhood. When applicable, have your child add

landmarks, bodies of water, and landforms to the map! Encourage your child to read about important people or countries around the world. This way they can figuratively travel even when they stay at home.

If you go on a trip, have your child keep a journal about what they see and do. They could also record similarities or differences to their culture as well.

Math

The best way to review the math concepts taught this year is to have children apply them to their daily lives, making math over the summer fun and meaningful.

How do you and your family relax during the summer? Your activities might include playing sports, playing games, exploring your hometown, shopping, enjoying nature, or traveling. Math is our invisible friend in all those activities. If we can help our children enjoy finding and using math in the world around them, we are really helping them become mathematical thinkers, which supports your child's classroom learning.

- Addition and subtraction to 10—To keep the combinations through ten fresh, flashcards are a great way to do this.
- Renaming addition and subtraction--Single-digit and double-digit addition and subtraction facts ($8 + 7 = _$, $23 + 47 = _$, $16 - 9 = _$, and $54 - 36 = _$).
- Time--Use clocks at home to practice on the hour, half-hour, quarter past and quarter till. Try both analog and digital clocks!
- Money--Have your child count coins and identify the name and value of each coin. Your child can also count change you receive from the store.
- Skip counting--Practice counting by 2's, 3's, 4's, 5's, 10's and 25's. If you use coins, you can practice two skills in one!
- While cooking with your child, have him or her help measure the ingredients.

Flashcards for addition and subtraction

You can find boxes of flashcards for addition and subtraction at Lakeshore Learning, Amazon, and many bookstores. Your child can take turns answering questions with a parent or sibling. *All Hands on Deck* by Joanne Curran is a fun book featuring math games using cards and dice.

Numbers around your house and town

Throughout the day, ask math questions that have to do with your child's surroundings. Have your child tell you what the speed limit is when you pass a sign, and then ask him or her to add the two digits. Your child could tell you how many Cheerios, grapes, etc. he or she has on the plate before eating them.

Science

Going outdoors provides a great opportunity for science learning. You and your child can go hiking to find different plants and flowers. Growing a plant or any variety of seeds is also exciting. (It's fun to document changes in the plant and make predictions about what might happen.)

Students can put their research skills to great use by researching their findings such as insects and plants.

Students also learned a lot about conservation this year. Encourage your child to reduce, reuse, and recycle at home and within the community! Ideas include a beach or park clean up!

Other Ideas

Crafts

You can find lots of craft ideas online or at stores such as Michaels or Ben Franklin. If you find ones that incorporate math or English, your child can have the fun of artistic expression while using his or her math, letter sounds, or reading skills. Crafts can also help your child practice fine motor skills.

Online Resources

Here is a list of online sites with wonderful educational games or craft ideas that encourage critical thinking and problem solving:

- www.creativekidsathome.com
- www.getepic.com
- www.brainpopjr.com
- www.starfall.com
- www.pbskids.org/games/
- www.education.com/games/
- www.learn4good.com/kids-games/online/freeforpreschoolers.htm
- www.popsugar.com/family/virtual-summer-camp-ideas-47451720
- <https://youtu.be/zXFZUMjehDU> (elapsed time)
- <https://youtu.be/fLxJ8Hy0CRw> (elapsed time)

Book Suggestions for Mindfulness



We hope you enjoy these ideas. Enjoy your summer!

Sincerely,

Ms. Allan, Ms. Avila, Mrs. Azizi, Mrs. Beltran, Mrs. Brodie, Mrs. Chang, Ms. Lam, Mrs. Nichols, Mrs. Tarpay and Mrs. Torrez