



Bellevue Children's Academy
Summer Study Guide and Recommended Reading List
Pre-Kindergarten 2023-2024



At Bellevue Children's Academy, we recommend that children reinforce what they learned during the school year by engaging in learning activities over the summer.

Timings

Review all previously passed timing sheets. If you do not have your child's passed timings, we suggest working on the combinations through 10 and short vowel words.

Language Skills

Independent Reading

During the summer, encourage your child to participate in King County Library System's wonderful summer reading program. You can sign up for KCLS's summer reading program either on-line or at your local library. If you do not live in King County, Seattle Public Library and Sno-Isle Regional Library System have also offered summer reading programs in the past. 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.

Another option is to help your child set reading goals for him- or herself. Goals could include reading twenty minutes a day; reading one book a day (or week, depending upon your child's reading level and the size of the book); and/or reading out loud to at least one family member per day. You can track your child's progress with a reading log or sticker chart. For extra practice, have your child write a short book report or draw a picture about the book. This will encourage reading comprehension--an important skill in Kindergarten.

Phonics Review

Your child will be bringing home their Phonics book. While a majority of the work was completed in class, you will find that there are incomplete pages that remain as well. To help bridge the summer months, we encourage you to make use of the remaining pages in their phonics book to keep their skills honed. Working with your child will help maintain a solid foundation before beginning their Kindergarten school year. While these concepts will be reviewed at the start of the upcoming year, students with a strong understanding of basic phonics knowledge will have more confidence as they embark on a new school year. Depending upon the book and your child's reading level, Kindergarten and even first (and second!) grade books will often review concepts we covered this year in Pre-Kindergarten. We also encourage your child to review and continue to practice reading the phonics books that accompanied the timings curriculum.

Handwriting

There are some great handwriting books available at Lakeshore Learning Store. You can also encourage writing and handwriting practice this summer by having your child write:

- Book reports
- Letters to family members who live far away
- Your grocery list
- A daily or weekly journal of summer events
- Funny short stories (with illustrations)

Math Skills

A good 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. You may also consider picking up a math workbook from Amazon, or any bookstore, that reviews much of what we focused on this school year.

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--Keep the combinations through ten, fresh. Flashcards are a great way to do this.
- Time--Use clocks to practice hour and half-hour.
- Money--Have your child count coins and identify the name and value of each coin.
- Practice counting--Practice counting by 1s, 2s, 5s, 10s and 25s. The use of manipulatives can help strengthen these concepts. If students use pennies, nickels, dimes, and quarters to count, they are building on two skills, not just one.
- Fractions--Have your child identify fractional amounts. During mealtime see if your child can tell you how much is left or how much they have eaten. Fractions can be found anywhere indoors and outdoors.

Flashcards for addition and subtraction

You can find boxes of flashcards for addition and subtraction at Lakeshore Learning Store, some bookstores, and sometimes at Staple's in the teacher section. Your child can take turns answering questions with a parent or sibling.

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 numbers. Your child could tell you how many Cheerios, grapes, etc., he or she has on the plate before eating them.

Other Resources/Activities

Crafts

You can find many craft ideas either on-line or at craft stores such as Michael's or Ben Franklin's. If you find crafts that incorporate math, your child can have the fun of artistic expression while using his or her math skills.

Workbooks

Spectrum and Rainbow Bridge Publishing publish a variety of excellent workbooks, but there are other workbooks available that are equally well done. To keep boredom at bay, it is best to find one or two workbooks that cover several topics. A page or two a day should be sufficient. Below are some other workbooks we recommend; they can be found at and Amazon.com:

- *BIG First Grade Work Book – Ages 6-7* by School Zone.
- *Reading & Math Jumbo Workbook – Grade K* by Scholastic
- *Spelling Puzzles – Ages 6-8* by School Zone.
- *Carson Dellosa Phonics for First Grade.*
- *First Grade Fundamentals – Thinking Kids*, Carson-Dellosa Publishing (This book is **HIGHLY** recommended)

Bingo

Stores have bingo games on a variety of subjects (time, fractions, numbers, addition/subtraction). We sometimes play bingo in class and the students seem to enjoy it—learning this way tends to be more like a game than “schoolwork” to them.

Website Resources

Websites can be a fine resource for summer learning. Here are a few we recommend:

www.starfall.com

- A great website for reading practice.

www.kcls.org/kids

- Enter your King County Library card number for stories your child can listen to/read on-line.

www.pbskids.org/games/all-topics/

- Play games with familiar characters and practice your school skills.

<https://www.typingclub.com>

- Have your child review and improve their typing skills.

<http://www.abcya.com/>

- Enjoy playing educational games at this site.

We hope you enjoy these ideas. Have a wonderful summer!

Pre-K Recommended Summer Reading List

(These are examples of books at various levels.)

Early Readers

Bob Books

Stage 1: Starting to Read

Hooked on Phonics

Hop Books

Step into Reading

Phonics First Step Set 1 and Set 2

Intermediate

I Can Read (Level 1&2)....stick to level 1 at first

Splat the Cat

Paddington

Danny & the Dinosaur

Sammy the Seal

Clark the Shark

Step Into Reading:

Hot Dog

Drop It, Rocket

Scholastic Phonics Readers

Pup and Pop

Nick Jr. Dora the Explorer

Nick Jr. Go Diego Go

Dr. Seuss

Hop on Pop

Fluent

Elephant and Piggie by Mo Williams

Amelia Bedelia by Peggy Parish

Magic Tree House Series by Mary Pope Osborne

Frog and Toad by Arnold Lobel

Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown

Pigeon Series by Mo Willems

Fly Guy by Ted Arnold

Pete the Cat by James Dean

Magic School Bus by Joanne Cole and Bruce Degen

Rainbow Magic by Daisy Meadows

Ruby has a Worry by Tom Percival