TIPS TO KEEP TWEENS AND TEENS LEARNING DURING THE SUMMER

No matter their age, it's important for ALL kids to keep learning over the summer. Here are some ways to keep your tween or teen learning over the summer.

Talk with your child’s teacher.
Ask your child’s teacher how your child can use the summer to get ready for the next grade. Find out what subjects are your child’s favorite. Ask the teacher for some fun and creative ideas to practice skills during summer.

Be active.
Keep your child active in the summer. Kids gain weight two to three times faster during the summer than the school year. Play a game of basketball, ride bikes, or take regular walks as a family.

Read with your child.
Ask if your child’s teacher has a book list or ideas for reading that will interest your tween or teen. Let your child’s interests guide book selections. Start an online “book club” and have your child invite a few friends to join in the fun.

Get outside.
Summer is the perfect season to take advantage of outdoor resources in your community. There are a lot of learning opportunities outdoors. Contact your local parks to learn more.

Talk about college and career.
Summer is a great time to explore college and career options with your child. Even if you can’t visit a campus, explore virtual tours. Connect your child with a mentor in a career that interests them. Help them write a resume for a summer internship or job.

Plan a project.
Does your child want to give his or her room a new look? Have your child sketch out design ideas, plan a budget, calculate the area needed for paint, price materials, and manage the project timeline.

Make it digital.
Many tweens and teens spend a lot of time on their phones and tablets and digital tools can be great tools for learning. Set aside some time to explore new apps that you can download and try together.

Let them choose.
As they become more independent, tweens and teens want more choices and input into how they spend their time. Give them ideas and options, but let them choose.

Use rewards.
Think creatively about rewards for your tween or teen over the summer. Create “Dad” or “Mom dollars” to complete “learning challenges” that can be spent to purchase privileges or experiences.

National Summer Learning Week is a celebration dedicated to elevating the importance of keeping kids learning, safe, and healthy every summer, ensuring they return to school ready to succeed in the year. Find more resources at www.summerlearning.org!