

Summer ELA Skill Building Suggestions

The information below is designed and offered as optional practice to help your child grow his or her vocabulary, improve reading comprehension, and practice writing skills in fun and creative ways. These activities may be done in one notebook. Feel free to reach out to us in the fall and let us know which activities you felt were most beneficial.

Create a Reading Log

Use this log to track what you read. Try to read at least 20 minutes each day. Read whatever interests you, either fictional stories or non-fiction, such as “how-to” books or sports articles. Set up the log by creating tables in a journal or notebook as follows:

Date	Title	Author	Number of Pages Read	Personal Thoughts and Reactions

Become a Collector of New Vocabulary Words

Write down new or interesting words you come across. Try to find at least 3 each week! Set up a table, much like the reading log, as follows:

New Word	Definition	Used in a Sentence	Synonym	Picture Representing the Word

Practice Written Expression

Choose one prompt each week to respond to:

1. If I could visit anywhere in the world, I would go to...
2. Write a story about a hidden door found in your backyard.
3. Describe your perfect summer day.
4. Invent a new animal. What does it eat? Where does it live?
5. Write a letter to your future self.
6. What would it be like to live in a treehouse?
7. What advice would you give to someone starting the grade you just finished?
8. If you could have any superpower, what would it be and why?
9. Describe a day when everything went wrong—but ended up okay.
10. Imagine you wake up one morning and can talk to animals. What happens next?
11. Write a story that takes place in a world where it's always winter.
12. What would you do if you switched lives with your teacher for a day?
13. Describe your dream bedroom. What would it look like and have inside?
14. Write about a time that you felt proud of yourself.
15. If your favorite toy or object could talk, what would it say?
16. Imagine discovering a message in a bottle on the beach. What does it say?
17. Describe what it would be like to go on an adventure inside your favorite book or movie.
18. If you were mayor of your town for a week, what changes would you make?
19. Write a story that begins with: "I never thought I'd find a dragon in my backpack..."
20. Imagine you're an alien visiting Earth for the first time. What do you see and think?

Become a Better Reader

Use these sentence starters after reading a chapter, passage, or article. Not all the sentence starters will be relevant to what you read; Use only the ones that are.

1. The main idea of what I read today is...
2. I was surprised when...
3. The character I liked best was ____ because...
4. This story reminded me of...
5. If I could change one part of the story...
6. I would recommend this to ____ because...

Use Your Imagination to Strengthen Your ELA Skills

Try one of these fun activities each week:

- Create a comic strip about something funny that happened to you.
- Make a mini book of poems.
- Design a poster for your favorite book.
- Record yourself reading a story aloud with expression.
- Start a family or friend book club!

Have fun learning and growing as a reader and writer! We look forward to welcoming you back to YCQ in the fall!!