

# Summer Skills Survival Guide

It really is possible to have fun and keep your kids skills up in the summer. Here's just a "few" ideas and links to get you started.

## Math

### Online Practice

<http://www.coolmath-games.com>

<http://www.primarygames.com/math.php>

<http://www.funbrain.com/brain/MathBrain/MathBrain.html>

<http://www.thinkingblocks.com/index.html>

<http://www.mathsisfun.com/games/addemup.html>

<https://www.abcya.com>

### Printables

<http://www.math-drills.com>

### For Parents

<http://www.bbc.co.uk/skillswise/maths>

### Apps

<http://singaporemathsource.com/resources/singapore-math-ipad-apps/>

<https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/math-ninja-hd-free!/id373814902?mt=8>

### Number Sense

Numbers 1-30. Break into parts. (snacks work great for this- cut carrots or orange sections or crackers)

**Example:** 9 can be 4 and 5 or 1 and 8 or ....

Numbers larger than 9 always can be broken into 10 + something

**Example:** 15 can be 10 and 5 or 10 and 2 and 3 or ....

### Cards

Play War for comparing numbers

Double War for addition facts practice or Multiplication facts practice

Use double dice for board games to practice addition facts.

### The Old Bucket Trick

Get a bucket of water and new, inexpensive paint rollers. "Paint" math facts on the driveway with water and solve before they evaporate. Practice writing numbers, letters, words, messages... The fun ins endless.

## Summer Reading

Read every day!!! Read to your child each day and have them spend time reading as well.

### Books

- Find lists of books based on reading level. <http://www.lexile.com>

- Barnes and Noble and most libraries have summer reading programs where kids earn prizes for reading. Take the time to go to your local library and Barnes and Noble and ask.
- Make your own books.
- <https://www.readingrockets.org/books>
- [Make Your Own Movie with Lego](#)

### Reading and Books Podcast Episodes

- <https://www.hopeineducation.com/blog/045-growing-a-love-for-reading-with-jodie-rodriguez-from-growing-book-by-book>
- <https://www.hopeineducation.com/blog/011-instilling-a-love-of-reading-in-kids-and-families-with-michele-dunham>
- <https://www.hopeineducation.com/blog/035-what-is-phonemic-awareness-and-why-is-it-so-important>
- <https://www.hopeineducation.com/blog/038-how-teaching-phonics-will-set-your-students-up-for-long-term-reading-success>

### Authors

Jan Brett

- <https://www.janbrett.com>

Eric Carle

- <https://eric-carle.com/>

Tomie dePaola

- <https://www.tomie.com/>

Kevin Henkes

- <https://kevinhenkes.com/>

Ezra Jack Keates

- <https://www.ezra-jack-keats.org/section/for-kids/>

Arnold Lobel

- <https://arnoldlobel.wordpress.com/>

Robert Munsch

- <http://robertmunsch.com/>

Laura Numeroff

- <https://lauranumeroff.com/>

Shel Silverstein

- <http://www.shelsilverstein.com/>

Chris van Allsburg

- <http://polarexpress.com/>

Mo Willems

- <https://www.kennedy-center.org/education/mo-willems/lunch-doodles/>
- <http://www.mowillems.com/>

### Sites in Spanish

- <http://gws.ala.org/category/literature-amp-languages/lugares-en-espanol-para-ninos>

### Virtual Author Activities

- <https://www.weareteachers.com/virtual-author-activities/>

## Sight Words

### Website Games + Apps

- <http://www.starfall.com/n/matching/sight-words/play.htm?f>
- <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/sight-words-list-learn-to/id445708245?mt=8>

### Sight Words

- [Simple Sight Word Learning System](#)

## Summer Reading Challenge

- <http://www.scholastic.com/summer/>

## Online Stories

- <https://storylineonline.net>
- <http://pbskids.org/lions/stories/nature.html>
- <https://storytimefromspace.com/>
- [https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTKV\\_ejv-ddZH45Wx9EaqFQ](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTKV_ejv-ddZH45Wx9EaqFQ)
- <https://vimeo.com/channels/1553611>
- [https://www.youtube.com/results?search\\_query=%23OperationStoryTime](https://www.youtube.com/results?search_query=%23OperationStoryTime)
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=vkYmvxPOAJI>
- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wnw72FTtYP8&list=PLzSkd2YQ-Hql7hXwee25MhzElavUOU2Jm>
- <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCW4xcMO-XdDU94BsByljz8g>

## Storytimes in Other Languages

- <https://vimeo.com/showcase/7202411>

## Award Winning Books

- [https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/books/awards/kids-book-awards/\\_/N-29Z8q8Z1s20](https://www.barnesandnoble.com/b/books/awards/kids-book-awards/_/N-29Z8q8Z1s20)

## Library Programs

- See if your local library has a subscription to Tumblebooks
- Check out your local library's Summer Reading Program

## Virtual Tours of Libraries around the World

- <https://www.libraryjournal.com/?detailStory=Virtually-Visit-8-World-Class-Libraries>

## Good Brain Work Choices

- Puzzles
- Mazes/ Crossword Puzzles/ Word Searches
- Sudoku
- Dot-to-Dot
- Building Toys – [Bristle Blocks](#), [Snap Circuits](#), [Lego Gadgets](#)...
- [Mad Libs](#)
- [Scrabble](#)
- [Learn to Play Chess Online](#)

**Writing Journal-** Keep a writing journal this summer. Write down all of your adventures or make up an imaginary adventure.

### Other Writing Activities

- <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/activities-projects/dragon-fire-from-30988.html>
- <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/activities-projects/trip-museum-from-picture-30302.html>

Write a Story or Comic

- <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/book-creator-for-ipad/id442378070?mt=8>
- <http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/games-tools/comic-creator-a-30237.html>

Make Pop-up Book

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=GoYRVhqwifs>

And lots more ideas...

- [http://www.readwritethink.org/search/?resource\\_type=70](http://www.readwritethink.org/search/?resource_type=70)

### Printing Practice

- <http://www.k12reader.com/handwriting-practice-worksheets-block-style-print/>
- <http://www.kidzone.ws/kindergarten.htm>

## Science

### Make a field journal or Gardener's Journal

Need: a composition book for notes. In a pencil case to put - a field guide (Barnes and Noble trifold ones), small ruler, pencil, baggies (for samples), scissors, compass, string or tape measure

### Machines

- <http://www.edheads.org/activities/simple-machines/>

### Animals and Habitats

- <http://www.learner.org/jnorth/monarch/>
- <https://kids.nationalgeographic.com/animals/>
- <https://zoo.sandiegozoo.org/live-cams>
- <https://aqua.org/media/virtualtours/baltimore/index.html>

Farm Tour

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ZZ6CwxMzrQs>

### Denver Museum of Nature and Science- Virtual Tours

From Dinosaurs to Volcanos to

- <http://www.dmns.org/search?q=virtual%20tours>

Scientists in Action

- <https://www.dmns.org/learn/dmns-at-home/teach/scientists-in-action/>

## Science Experiments

- <https://www.stevespanglerscience.com/lab/experiment-library/>
- <https://billnye.com/home-demos>
- <https://www.youtube.com/user/TheRealBillNye/videos>

## Virtual Tours

### New England Aquarium

- <https://www.neaq.org/visit/at-home-events-and-activities/>

### Matter

- <http://studyjams.scholastic.com/studyjams/jams/science/matter/solids-liquids-gases.htm>

### Stars + Space

- <https://itunes.apple.com/us/app/star-walk-hd-5-stars-astronomy/id363486802?mt=8>
- <https://www.nickcommunity.com/sis>
- <https://www.nasa.gov/multimedia/videogallery/index.html>
- <https://stellarium-web.org/>

### Nasa Kids Club

- <https://www.nasa.gov/kidsclub/index.html#.XnJlpNPpoKE.twitter>
- [Backyard Bird Identification Guide](#)

### Insects

- [Insect Lore Butterfly Grow Kit](#)

## Other

### Art, Artists/Illustrators

- <https://www.travelandleisure.com/attractions/museums-galleries/museums-with-virtual-tours>
- <https://www.bostonchildrensmuseum.org/museum-virtual-tour>

#### Louvre

- <https://www.louvre.fr/en/online-tours>

#### The Met

- <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-metropolitan-museum-of-art>

#### Rome

- <https://www.museivaticani.va/content/museivaticani/en/collezioni/musei/tour-virtuali-elenco.html>

## Other Virtual Tours

### History

#### Egypt

- <https://www.pbs.org/wgbh/nova/pyramid/explore/>
- <https://discoveringegypt.com/>
- <https://thebanmappingproject.com/valley-kings>

#### Colonial Times + Immigration

- <https://www.colonialwilliamsburg.org/learn/virtual-tours/>
- <http://teacher.scholastic.com/activities/immigration/webcast.htm>

#### White House

- <https://artsandculture.google.com/partner/the-white-house>

#### Wonderful Places of the World

- <https://www.airpano.com/search.php?q=+>

#### National Parks Virtual Tours

- <https://www.nps.gov/grca/learn/photosmultimedia/virtualtour.htm>
- <http://www.nationalparks.org/connect/npf-kids>
- <https://www.nps.gov/kids/become-a-junior-ranger.htm>

### Factory Tours: How Things are Made

#### Crayons

- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=ImiRjmbnn8Q>

#### M&Ms

- <https://www.lifewire.com/best-free-virtual-field-trips-4800629>

### Money

- <http://www.usmint.gov/kids/>

### Get Up and MOVE

#### Best Park Awards

- Go to a different park each day for a few weeks. Compare/contrast and rate them. Best swings, most fun, most stuff to do, fastest slide, most interesting, etc. . . .

#### Fun Exercise

- <https://www.gonoodle.com/>

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