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4th – 8th Grade Summer Literacy Activities

Summer is a great time to do some fun and creative literacy activities with your student and avoid the “summer slip.” The activities listed below can be done with few to no materials at all; some can be done in one sitting while others can be a long-term project that your student can work on over several days or weeks.

- **Write Poetry** – Try different styles (e.g. haiku, limerick, rhyming, etc.). Try writing sad, silly, happy, scary poems!
- **Book Report** – Write a book report. Be creative! Try a tri-fold report.
- **Music Memory** – List as many songs as you can think of that begin with a specific letter, or mention colors in the lyrics, etc.
- **Word Games** – Do a word search, crossword, or Madlib. Try making your own!
- **Write a Review** – Write a review of a book, movie, TV show, etc. Make it at least five sentences.
- **Write a Letter** – Write a letter to a relative, President Obama, a teacher, your tutor, etc. (If possible, send the letter!)
- **Be the Author** – Rewrite the ending to a book you’ve read or movie you’ve seen.
- **Directions** – Write down directions for tying a shoe, playing a sport, drawing a picture, etc. Test the accuracy of your directions on someone else!
- **Dream Vacation** – Write a one-page report about where you would most like to visit. Why there? What would you do there? What is the weather like? What is the food like? How do you get there?
- **City Planning** – Write a letter to your mayor with a suggestion for improving your city. Send the letter!
- **Fourth of July** – Write 8-10 sentences about the July 4th.
- **Geography** – Randomly pick a city/state/country and find out and write down 10 facts about it.
- **Newspapers** – Read and discuss a newspaper article with your tutor. How does newspaper writing differ from other types of writing?
- **Extra, Extra** – Write a newspaper article about a local event, holiday, sporting event, etc.
- **My Menu** – Write out your dream menu including drinks, desserts, entrees, and sides. Include the recipes if possible.
- **Word Scramble** – Use the letters of a big word to make little words (e.g. lumberjack or kickboxing). See how many you can come up with!
- **Fan Mail** – Write a fan mail letter to your favorite celebrity. Tell them why you are a fan of their work. If possible, send it!
- **Word Change** – Start with simple words like “and” and “are” and see how many new words you can make by adding letters to them. What’s the longest word you can come up with?
- **Career** – Pick a career that sounds good to you and research it. What schooling is required? What is the salary? Where do people do that job? Why does that career interest you?
- **Read, read, and read!** – Summer provides you with ‘extra’ time to enjoy longer books.

BONUS: Summer Literacy Activity Bingo Board

- Complete a row of the listed Summer Activities by the start of school and get a prize!
- Complete blackout gets you a special prize!!