

Stop the Summer Brain Drain!

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Kids Lose What They've Learned!

- Study by the University of Missouri-Columbia found that students lose one to three months worth of learning during the summer months.
- ABC News states that students lose up to 60 percent of what they've learned during the school year.



Kids Lose What They've Learned!

- Nellie Mac Education Foundation reports that brain drain during the first five years of school can hurt kids later on, in high school, and college.
- The decline is more detrimental for math than it is for reading.
- **YOU can HELP!!!**



What You Can Do

- Create a culture of learning.
- Let your children see how you seek out knowledge. Not knowing something can be a powerful tool.
- Watch carefully to see what ignites your child's passions.
- *Motivated Minds: Raising Children to Love Learning*, by Deborah Stipek.

Summer Programs

- Sign your child up for a summer program!
- Many programs offer scholarships.
- Download the McCoy Youth Activity Directory:
www.mccoyouth.org.
- Check with community centers, parks, colleges, churches, libraries, and schools.
 - www.indyparks.org
 - www.indyschild.com
 - www.mysummercamps.com
 - www.summercamps.com
 - www.acacamps.org
 - www.roymccoy.org



Summer School

- Consider summer school or tutoring.
- Struggling kids can get a lot of great remediation during the summer
- Summer school can also enrich and accelerate learning in areas where kids show a special interest.
- Contact the Curriculum Director in your child's school district.



Real Life Experiences

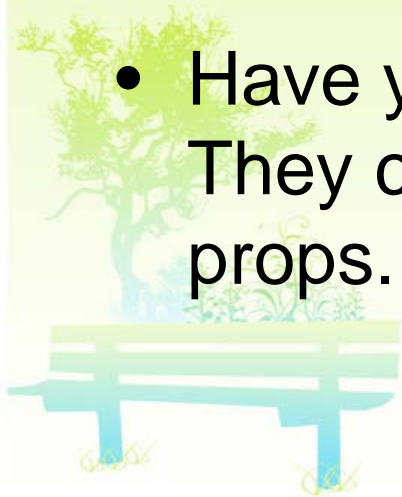
- Provide your children with lots of experiences.
- Try taking them to ethnic restaurants for a first exposure to other countries.
- Farmers' markets, the beach, museums, and parks can also be great classrooms.
- Find out what your kids will be learning next year and plan the family vacation around it. Civil War – visit Gettysburg!

Reading

- BOOKS! Keep lots of books around and make regular trips to the library. Most libraries schedule special summer events for kids. Sign up your family!
- Find out what interests your child. 75% of kids embraced Harry Potter after he entered their lives.
- If your child likes film, one way to get them reading is with screenplays. They are widely available online.
- Flocabulary - www.flocabulary.com teaches reading and history with hip-hop music.

Writing

- If your child loves writing, have them keep a daily log and share it at dinner. It can be the family version of the evening news.
- Ask your child to write down the menu for dinner.
- Use shaving cream, sidewalk chalk, gel pens, and whiteboards.
- Have your children write a play with their friends. They can also get artsy with costumes and props.



Math

- Remember – your kids will lose more math skills than anything else over the summer!
- Choose programs with a math curriculum.
- Invite your child into the kitchen. Measuring and weighing are great ways to practice math skills.
- Teach percentages through baseball.
- Set up a lemonade stand or yard sale and work on financial literacy.
- Create a budget with older kids.
- Let your child help you add up the price of groceries.

Science

- Use nature as a classroom. Organize an outdoor scavenger hunt. Use a book from the library to identify bugs, rocks, and flowers.
- Stargaze with your children.
- Learn more about the ocean through the seafood on the dinner table.
- Science experiments!
- Find local go green events:
www.thegreenparent.com.
- Contact Chris Collins with McCoy:317-921-1286.

Sources

- www.abc.com
- www.msn.com
- www.familyeducation.com
- www.mccooyouth.org



HAVE FUN!!!!

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