How to Beat the Summer Slide

For children, summer vacation is a time full of carefree fun. At Reading Partners, however, we look at summer as a continuation of the learning and building upon the skills we've been working on all school year. Conclusive Research has proven the existence of what many educators refer to as "Summer Slide", or the unfortunate decline in a student's abilities after two-and-a-half months summer learning hiatus.

> June is routinely seen as the 'end' of the school year and August as the 'start' of another. Such jargon sets families up to view summer as an educational pause. Unfortunately, in 'pausing' a child's education, regular practice of newly learned skills is often neglected, and as a result, students can return to school in August as much as 3-months behind where they left off in June.

Engaging kids in fun summer learning activities motivates them to continue their growth in reading and learning throughout the summer, and even helps students become excited about returning to school and starting the year off strong.

Here are 7 tips for making reading part of the fun:

1. **Take your child on regular trips to the library.** Taking a trip to the library is a fun reading centered activity that children love. Make regular visits to the library and let your child spend as much or as little time as they want picking out books to take home.

2. Make re