

June Newsletter

First Grade

It is hard to believe that the school year is almost over. It has been a pleasure watching all the children grow academically as well as physically. We wish all our Gale-Bailey families a wonderful and enjoyable summer.

Research has repeatedly shown that children lose academic skills over the summer. Your child can be the exception. Here are some ideas to help you.

- Continue to review the sight words in your child's word box and book. Make it fun. Create some games.
- Visit the public library weekly. Your child may want to get their own library card.
- Read books to your child above his/her reading level. This will help develop vocabulary, comprehension, and concepts. Read nonfiction and fiction books.
- Keep a list of books that your child reads this summer. Have special treats or activities to celebrate.
- Have your child start a diary. The ones with keys are especially enjoyed by children.
- Work on addition and subtraction math facts. Many stores have flash cards that you can buy. Try some of these ideas.
 1. Pick a fact card and use cereal pieces or macaroni to make a model of the fact.
 2. Pick a fact card and draw a picture to show the fact.
 3. Play Fact War by splitting the fact cards into two piles. Each player flips a card over, and the player with the greater sum/difference keeps both cards.
 4. Spread out all of the fact cards on a table. Say a sum/difference and have your child find the fact card that goes with it.
 5. Tape fact cards on different doors in your house. Have your child give the sum/difference for the fact card before being able to open the door.

The internet has a wealth of information. If your computer is having problems, use a computer at the public library. Here are some websites that we recommend.

<http://www.wordle.net/create>

Make posters for word wall words among other things.

<http://www.spellingcity.com/>

<http://www.starfall.com/>

<https://xtramath.org/>

Free site for mastering math facts.

<http://www.education.com/>

Just choose grade level and concept and print a worksheet for your child to complete. You need to register, but this is a free site.

<http://illuminations.nctm.org/>

Great site from the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics. Check out the pan balance and ten frames.

<http://www.learninggamesforkids.com>

<http://www.jumpstart.com/>

Looking forward to seeing our students out and about during the summer. Come visit us in the fall.

Fondly,

The First Grade Teachers