Summer Programming Resources for Family Literacy Programs
Importance of Summer Programming

1. To combat "summer slide"
   • Literacy and math skills decline, especially for low-income families
   • Student achievement decreased by one-month of school year learning during the summer months

2. Family Literacy programs can...
   • Help children and adults keep up with their academic skills
   • Provide resources and learning opportunities
   • Promote three strategies*
     • Read six books during the summer
     • Read something every day
     • Keep reading aloud

Site-based Summer Programming Resources
Online Resources and Ideas for Programming

Pennsylvania One Book, Every Young Child

- [https://paonebook.powerlibrary.org/](https://paonebook.powerlibrary.org/)
- Summer 2022 book is *Saturday* written and illustrated by Oge Mora
- Virtual event with the author on April 5 at 10:00 am
- Printable activity guide and lots of other great ideas [https://paonebook.powerlibrary.org/resources/](https://paonebook.powerlibrary.org/resources/)
More online resources

Free Library of Philadelphia

• One Book, One Philadelphia: Sharing generational stories
  • [https://libwww.freelibrary.org/programs/onebook/](https://libwww.freelibrary.org/programs/onebook/)
  • Blog about the program: [https://libwww.freelibrary.org/blog/post/4843](https://libwww.freelibrary.org/blog/post/4843)

• Three books to meet reading level needs
  • Adults – *My Broken Language: A Memoir* by Quiara Alegria Hudes (Pulitzer prize winner)
  • Teens – *Never Look Back* by Lilliam Rivera
  • Children – *Alma and how she got her name* by Juana Martinez-Neal

• Additional Resources
  • Blog posts on tons of topics, such as summer reading, early literacy, family programs, adult learners, etc.
  • [https://libwww.freelibrary.org/blog/tag/summer-reading](https://libwww.freelibrary.org/blog/tag/summer-reading)
Other Resources

PA Summer Reading Resources
- Document that lists easy, free things to do – need to adapt and simplify language

Reading Rockets
- Summer Reading - [https://www.readingrockets.org/calendar/summer](https://www.readingrockets.org/calendar/summer)
- Can access 24 kid-friendly topics matched with books
- Summer reading booklist – [https://www.readingrockets.org/books/summer](https://www.readingrockets.org/books/summer)

Pennsylvania Cruise into Kindergarten
- Lots to discover on this site! [https://cruiselibraries.powerlibrary.org/](https://cruiselibraries.powerlibrary.org/)
- Booklists (e.g., health and nutrition, STEM, diversity, informational books, by age group
- Blogs to other resources

Free virtual field trips
Example pages of Books On the Go

What You Need
A library card, a connection to the internet, and a computer or mobile device.

Access Is Easy
1. Log on to kids.powerlibrary.org.
2. Click “GO” under BookFlix.
3. Enter your library card number.

Before Reading
Talk about animal sounds together. What sound does a dog make? Does a dog say “meow”? How about “wag”?
Talk about the vocabulary words in Pets at the Vet, checkup, veterinarian, thermometer, stethoscope, medicine, x-ray, and cast. This promotes the PA Language and Literacy standard.

After Reading
A veterinarian is a doctor for animals. Talk about how a vet does a check-up on an animal. How is it similar to or different from when you go to the doctor?

Pretend Play
Pretend to be a veterinarian and do a check-up on a stuffed animal. Do not use a live animal because they may bite you or you may hurt them. Look at their eyes, nose, and mouth. Does everything look okay? Feel their stomach; does it feel normal? Look closely at their fur. Is it shiny and nice, or are there bald spots?

Observe
Count all of the dogs you see in one day.
Go to a dog park to watch dogs play. Be sure to listen for them to bark.

Move and Sing
Sing “There Was an Old Lady Who Swallowed a Fly.” This promotes the CA Creative Thinking and Expression Standard.

Explore
Eat animal crackers. Pay attention to each animal and make the sound of that animal after you swallow the animal cracker.
Talk about the strangest thing you ever ate.
Read the story to your pet.

More BookFlix pairs you may enjoy:

- Bark, George by Jules Feiffer
- Pets at the Vet by Alyse Sweeney

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- Pets at the Vet by Alyse Sweeney

Visit your local library for more books about dogs and veterinarians:

- A Ball for Daisy by Christy Rassck
- Dogs by Seymour Simon
- I'm My Own Dog by David Ezra Stein
- Jump, Pop! by Susan B. Neuman
- Let's Take Care of Our New Dog by Nanci Rohan
- Olivia Becomes a Vet by Alex Harvey
- Widget by Lyn Rossetter McFarland
- Z is for Zookeeper: A Zoo Alphabet by Marie Smith

More BookFlix pairs you may enjoy:

- A Sick Day for Amos McGee by Philip C. Stead
- Animals in the Zoo by Allan Fowler

Good Night, Gorilla by Peggy Rathmann
- Who's at the Zoo? by Alyse Sweeney

Is Your Mama a Llama? by Deborah Guarino
- Animal Babies by Elaine Pascoe

If you don’t have a library card, visit your local public library or get an eCard at kids.powerlibrary.org.

BookFlix is brought to you by PLDLAPO.
Non-Online Fun Summer Ideas

✓ Screen-time free ideas of fun

![50 Kid’s Screen-Free Summer Activities](image)

- **Screen-Free Outdoors**
  - Make an ant farm
  - Build a fort
  - Have a backyard camp out
  - Go for a hike
  - Cultivate a garden
  - Collect tadpoles & watch them grow into frogs
  - Have a water balloon fight
  - Run through the sprinklers
  - Go for a swim
  - Go berry or apple picking
  - Set up a slip and slide
  - Have an ice cream or lemonade stand
  - Try out canoeing or kayaking
  - Go fishing
  - Nature-themed scavenger hunt
  - Visit a new park in your town
  - Climb a tree
  - Hunt for crawdads
  - Have a picnic outside
  - Draw with chalk
  - Have a squirt gun fight
  - Create an obstacle course

- **Screen-Free Arts & Crafts**
  - Make a bird feeder
  - Create jewelry with beads
  - Upcycle artwork
  - Make sunglasses
  - Weave dream catchers
  - Build with cardboard boxes
  - Paint kindness rocks & leave them at the park & around your neighborhood
  - Play dress-up
  - Put on a play
  - Paint wooden sticks & decorate them
  - Build fairy houses outside
  - Make your own tree stump tic-tac-toe
  - Learn how to sew
  - Make your own slime or play dough
  - Make friendship bracelets
  - Paint outside
  - Make artwork only using nature
  - Learn origami

- **Screen-Free Learning**
  - Visit a museum or nature center
  - Join a summer reading program

✓ Coloring pages – to download

✓ Free fun things to do for Philly kids -
Websites:  www.pbskiids.org
Celebrating spring website:  Celebrating Spring | PBS KIDS for Parents
Additional Resources for Summer Programming
• **Little Free Libraries**
  • Oh, how I love [Little Free Libraries](#)! They are book boxes that you will hopefully find in your own neighborhood. There are currently over 90,000 of them worldwide. Check at a local bank, neighbor’s yard or playground for one of these special boxes. The premise is that you take a book or two and return a book or two on your next visit. [Find a location](#) near you or start your own!

• **Dolly Parton Imagination Library**
  • The [Dolly Parton Imagination Library](#) is a unique book gifting program that mails a brand new, age-appropriate book to enrolled children every month from birth until five years of age. It is open to various communities in the USA.

• **Overdrive** — free audio and ebooks with a library card
  • Enjoy ebooks, audiobooks, magazines and more are available for free through your local library or school.
• **Publishers – Books for purchase**
  - Many publishers offer giveaways in the form of sweepstakes or contests on social media. They will often give away their brand-new titles or collections. Follow your favorite publishers on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram. Here are a few that have giveaways several times a year.
    - [Scholastic](#)
    - [Candlewick Press](#)
    - [Read Brightly](#) (A Penguin Random House Company)

• **Book Swaps**
  - Attend or host a book swap. Families who have gently used books, that they no longer read, swap them for other books they would like to add to their libraries. If a family brings five books, they get to take five different books home.
  - This can easily be done as a school swap too.

• **Barnes and Noble Summer Reading Programs**
  - Barnes and Noble will reward kids with a free book for tracking their reading over the summer.