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Reading is the foundation of all learning. A child who can read well is more likely to be **successful** in school and in life. That is why President George W. Bush is **committed** to the goal of **ensuring** that every child in the Atlanta Public Schools and throughout the nation becomes a **good reader**.

The first step to school **success** is to become a good reader. The summer months provide a great **opportunity** for children to spend time with **books** and to work on improving reading skills. For children who have difficulty **reading**, it is especially important to **practice** reading over the summer so that skills learned during the school year are **maintained**.

That is why the **U.S. Department of Education** has teamed up with the Atlanta Public Schools to conduct the **No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers** program.

U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige and **Atlanta Public Schools** Superintendent Beverly L. Hall believe that Atlanta's **commitment** to student success, recent gains in reading achievement and **strong community** and business partners make its school district the **ideal place** to pilot test a summer reading program that they hope will become **a model** for the nation. **Summer Reading Achievers** aims to help all schools reach President Bush's **goal** of leaving no child behind.

- Summer Reading Achievers sponsors include:
- First Book
 - Scholastic Inc.
 - The Walt Disney Company
 - Target Stores
 - The Boys and Girls Clubs of Metro Atlanta
 - Atlanta Partners for Education of the Metropolitan Atlanta Chamber of Commerce
 - Atlanta-Fulton County Public Library System
 - Boy Scouts of America
 - Communities in Schools of Atlanta, Inc.
 - City of Atlanta Bureau of Recreation
 - The Atlanta Council of PTAs
 - Parenting Coalition International
 - Barnes & Noble, Inc.
 - Telecom Pioneers
 - MeadWestvaco Corporation
 - Six Flags, Inc.

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400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20202
1-800-USA-LEARN



Atlanta Public Schools
210 Pryor Street
Atlanta, GA 30303
(404) 827-8000

For more information call **1-800-USA-LEARN**
or visit our Web site at www.ed.gov/offices/OIIA/summerreading/



No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers

A partnership between the U.S. Department of Education and Atlanta Public Schools



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SUMMER READING ACHIEVERS



“As parents, the most important thing we can do is read to our children early and often. Reading is the path to success in school and life. When children learn to love books, they learn to love learning.”

—Laura Bush

How can my child participate?

The program is very simple. Encourage your child to read 10 or more books over the summer months and record what they learned from each of those books on the reading log in this brochure.

At the end of the summer, review the log to ensure it is complete, sign and date it, and have your child return it to your principal. That's it.

Students who read the required 10 books will be rewarded with a variety of prizes, including free books and a Summer Reading Achievers certificate.

Schools with the highest percentage of students completing the program will receive free library books donated by First Book and the opportunity to send representatives to a national event in the fall celebrating the success of the program.

“Children who are never taught to read well may never perform at their full potential. If they are left behind because of poor reading instruction, they may be left behind entirely.”

—Rod Paige, U.S. Secretary of Education



“If we're interested in having a society in which everybody gets to access the greatness of this country, then the goal has got to be for every person to be able to read.”

—President George W. Bush



No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers Reading Log

Each time you read a book, talk about it with your parent or reading partner and then tell us about it in the spaces below. At the end of the summer, tear this section off and return it to the principal of your school. If you read more than 10 books, simply develop your own log and submit it with this tear-off.

Student's Name _____ Age _____

Student's School _____ Grade _____

Parent or Reading Partner's Name _____ Date _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

What I Liked About This Book: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

What I Liked About This Book: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

What I Liked About This Book: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

What I Liked About This Book: _____

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Author: _____

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Author: _____

What I Liked About This Book: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

What I Liked About This Book: _____

Title: _____

Author: _____

What I Liked About This Book: _____

What can you do to help your children boost their reading skills—and have fun—during their summer vacation?

📖 Get a library card for your child. Children love seeing their names on the cards and choosing books they want to read or have read to them. Many libraries offer story hours and computers for public use. All libraries have librarians who can help your child with everything from locating books to tackling research. To find the location and hours of operation of a library near you, visit the Atlanta-Fulton County Public Library System Web site at www.af.public.lib.ga.us/branches/index.html or call them at (404) 730-1700.

📖 Read with your child for at least 20 minutes every night from a broad selection of children's books, including fairy tales, songs, poetry, fiction and nonfiction.

📖 Listen to your child read to you.

📖 For beginning readers, point at each word as you read it. This helps children learn that we read from left to right. It also helps children understand that the word they say is the word they see.

📖 Talking with your child about the pictures and what is happening in the story helps boost comprehension skills.

📖 Read your child's favorite book over and over again. Children often love hearing some stories many times, and the repetition helps them connect the sounds they hear with the written words.

📖 When you read stories with your younger children, these stories often have rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite your child to join in.

📖 Point out new words, and say what they mean.

Did you know...?

📖 A child who is introduced to words and books early is more likely to become a good reader.

📖 Children who live in a home with magazines, newspapers and books are more likely to become good readers because of their exposure to a choice of learning opportunities and reading materials.

📖 Children who grow up with parents who spend time talking with them, listening to them, and answering their questions develop a larger vocabulary that helps them better read and comprehend books.

What can you do if your child needs extra help?

📖 Ask your child's teacher or principal about after-school or summer enrichment programs the school may offer to boost reading skills.

📖 Check local parents' publications, or call the Atlanta Public Schools Family Involvement Center at (404) 827-8116 to inquire about supplemental academic services such as summer camps or tutoring programs in your area geared towards improving academic skills.

📖 If you have further questions, call the U.S. Department of Education at 1-800-USA-LEARN and ask for information on how to help your child with reading and for information about after-school programs.

📖 To receive free materials on reading, contact ED Pubs toll free at 1-877-433-7827, or visit www.ed.gov/pubs.

📖 Use the U.S. Department of Education's Web sites www.NoChildLeftBehind.gov and www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/reading_resources.html to look for information and to download publications on reading.

📖 Access the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Web site at www.ed.gov/offices/OESE/21stcccl/ for reading-skills programs in the Atlanta metro area.

📖 Visit the Boys and Girls Clubs of Atlanta's Web site at www.bgcma.org for information on tutoring, reading programs and other summer activities at a location near you.

📖 Visit the Atlanta Public Schools' Web site at www.atlanta.k12.ga.us/ for more information on suggested grade-appropriate reading lists, parent involvement and the latest information on the Summer Reading Achievers program.

“We are committed to helping every student reach his or her full potential. That is our focus... Student Success!”

—Beverly L. Hall, Ed. D
Superintendent,
Atlanta Public Schools

