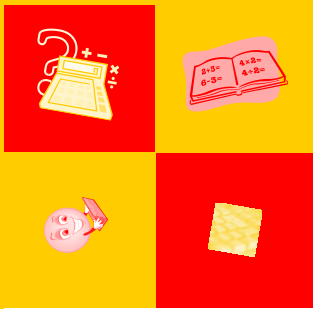


Academy of Math & Science



Summer Learning

Research continues to prove that to succeed in school and life, children need ongoing opportunities to learn and practice essential skills. Summer is the time most children lose what they have learned if they do not participate in educational activities.

Did you know?

- Most students lose about 2 months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills over the summer months. Low-income students also lose more than 2 months in reading achievement. (Cooper et al., 1996)
- Research spanning 100 years shows that students typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of the summer. (White 1906; Entwisle & Alexander, 1992; Coper et al., 1996; Downey et al., 2004)

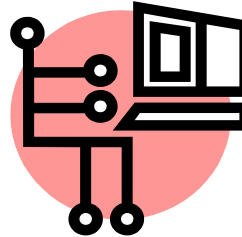
Research is from the "Center for Summer Learning"

A variety of websites provide children the opportunity to practice those math and reading comprehension skills they acquired during the school year. This issue contains educational websites that will help your child stay engaged in academic activities and master skills that still need fine tuning.

The internet is one way to stay engaged but there are other methods such as day camps, visits to the library and practice books.

We recommend Buckle Down, Spectrum, and Summer Bridge Practice Books.

Spectrum provides children the opportunity to develop and refine key skills in the areas of reading, phonics, math, writing and language arts. The books are written at a level of difficulty that allows children to complete the work independently. The stories are a great tool for reading fluency practice and comprehension.



Spectrum books may be purchased at any teacher supply store such as Jonathan's on Stone Ave. or Teaching Tools on Wetmore in the Wal-mart Shopping Center.

Summer Bridge contains daily activities in math, reading, language arts, science, and writing. Summer Bridge books are available for pre-school students to eighth graders. The book contains activities that are fun, motivating and more effective that will help your child practice the skills they learned during the school year. They can be purchased at a teacher supply store or Barnes & Noble.

Summer Bridge has an added feature on their website, www.SummerBridgeActivities.com. The website has additional resources, assessments, games, writing and reading contests and a summer reading program that encourages students to write and post their book reviews.

BuckleDown are books that are aligned to the Arizona State Standards and are a great tool to prepare students for AIMS. It allows students to become familiar with the testing format and learn test taking tips. A book can be purchased for each area assessed on AIMS (Math, Reading Writing, and Science). The book contains 4 units and a total of 23 lessons. Buckle Down can be ordered at www.BuckleDown.com.

All the practice books will build your child's confidence and prepare them for the new school year.



General Sites on a Variety of Subjects For Grades K-5

www.pbskids.com (K-2)

PBS Kids contains games in the areas of reading, letter knowledge, number recognition, Science, math, literacy, spelling, and vocabulary. This website is great to review material or prepare a kindergartener for the first days of school.

www.geocities.com/ EnchantedForest/8112/ learning.html

On this website you will find activities for pre-school through 4th grade as well as Advanced Math, Fractions, USA Capitals and the Solar System. Also simple activities for Reading Maps and Reading graphs.

www2.scholastic.com (K-4)

On this website you will find activities in Reading, Language Arts, So-

cial Studies, Science and Math. Each category also has "Quick Takes," a daily riddle or question.

www.nationalgeographic.com/ kids (4th & 5th)

On this website the Kids Magazine can be viewed, along with educational games such as "Go West with Lewis and Clark," "The Underground Railroad," or "Secrets of the Maya Glyphs."

www.eduweb.com/portfolio/ adventure.php

(3rd-5th)

Students can explore the world of art, science, and history through adventures such as The Renaissance Connection, PestWorld for Kids, or Shedd Aquarium Educational Adventures. Find adventures in Visual Arts, Performing Arts, Natural History, Earth, and Space Science, Engineering and Technol-

ogy, History, People and Cultures.

www.iknowthat.com (2-5)

This site has activities for the Arts, Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, and Engineering. The activities encourage self-paced learning about each topic with brief facts, more extensive exploration, and cross-disciplinary knowledge.

www.arcademickillbuilder.com (K-4)

This site includes practice in the areas of Math, Language Arts, and Geography.

Language Arts

www.starfall.com (K-2)

This site will help your child learn letter sounds and develop their reading skills. It contains interactive books and phonics games.

www.readwritethink.org (2-5)

Students will see how different affixes and roots can be combined to make words and then place them into a context-rich paragraph.

www.funbrain.com/grammar/ index.html (1-4)

Grammar Gorillas need help identifying parts of speech. If you click on the right word in the sentences, the gorillas get a banana.

www.eduplace.com/tales/ (2-5)

Wacky Web Tales is an online version of Mad Libs that allows students to have fun with the parts of speech.

www.readwritethink.org/ letter_generator/ (2-5)

The Letter Generator is designed to help students learn to identify all the parts of a business or friendly letter and then generate letters by typing information into letter templates.

www.professorgarfield.com (K-2)

This website is great for early readers and incoming kindergarteners. It has activities that introduce let-

ters and their sounds for new kindergarteners. For early readers it has grammar practice and online stories. The stories are great for second grade students to practice their Reading fluency.



A trip to the library to check out books is another good method to stay prepared for school.

Science

www.spaceplace.nasa.gov/en/kids/

This site exposes students to the Jet Propulsion Laboratory, and others, students can learn amazing facts about space, Earth, and technology.

www.bbc.co.uk/schools/scienceclips/index_flash.shtml (K-6)

This website contains 36 units of interactive experiments and quizzes.

Math Websites

www.multiplication.com (2-5)

This website contains games as way to review multiplication facts.

www.funbrain.com/tictactoe/index.html (k-5)

Students use the game Tic Tac Toe to solve problems in addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, squares, cubes, square roots and all operations.

www.pbs.org/wgbh/buildingbig/index.html (3rd & up)

This site brings bridges, skyscrapers, tunnels, and dams to the Internet for those who want to learn more about man-made giants that fill our communities.

www.brainpop.com (K-3)

The website has games that allow students to explore the following areas of science: cellular life, Earth Systems, weather, space, famous scientists, matter and chemistry,

and ecology. Science movies are also available.



www.illuminations.nctm.org/mathlets/index.html (K-4)

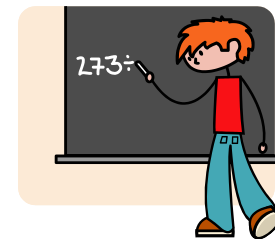
Find a wide variety of tools such as Bobbie Bear to review counting strategies, Cubes, and Fraction Pie.

www.aplusmath.com/flashcards/index.html (K-5)

This website contains flashcard games to review addition, subtraction, multiplication and division facts.

www.primarygames.com (K-2)

Learning games for pre-school to second grade. Review shapes, counting and telling time.



5 Great Websites That Let Kids Be Creative

www.shidonni.com (K-5)

Shidonni lets kids draw animals online, give them names, and design backgrounds for imaginary worlds.

www.makebeliefscomix.com (k-5)

Kids write, read and tell stories by creating comic strips online, then printing or e-mailing them to friends or relatives.

www.scratch.mit.edu (3rd grade and up)

Create movies, music, and video games at Scratch, developed by MIT Media Lab members.

www.pbskids.org/Arthur/games/crankitup

(K-5)

Kids can compose and record multi-layered rhythms using pots, pans, wooden spoons and even the com-

puter keyboard to create a masterpiece.

www.pbskids.org/designsquad/games/figit

(3rd– 6th)

This a multiplayer game where kids can design and build their own games and challenge their friends.

Middle School Science Website

<http://robotics.nasa.gov/students/students.php>

Interested in Robotics then this is the site for you! Check it out =)

www.windows2universe.org

This is an excellent astronomy site for budding astrophysicists.

<http://sciencebuddies.org/>

Keep scientific inquiry going all summer long with the Science Buddies website. You can take a quiz that will suggest topics, projects, etc based on your interests. Great site!



Middle School Math Websites

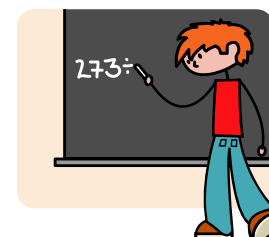
<http://www.aaamath.com/B/>

Customize the math options by choosing your past grade to review or get ahead for next year.

http://school.discoveryeducation.com/homeworkhelp/math/math_homework_help.html

www.math-drills.com A great site for Algebra 1.

jc-schools.net/tutorials/tools/math-ms.html This site refers users to many other sites via links.



Great Summer Websites

<http://www.readwritethink.org/parent-afterschool-resources/>

http://www.kidsource.com/education/summer_activities.art.html

<http://www.education.com/activity/middle-school/>

<http://middle-school-preparation.suite101.com/article.cfm/middle-school-fun-summer-learning>

<http://school.familyeducation.com/summer/family-learning/36089.html>

<http://www.apples4theteacher.com/holidays/summer/>

http://kids-educational-activities.suite101.com/article.cfm/summer_learning_projects_for_kids