



SUMMER LEARNING DAY KEY MESSAGES

Summer Learning Day presents the opportunity for parents, policymakers, and the general public to spread key messages about summer learning such as:

- It is important for every child to learn during summer to avoid losing skills they have gained during the school year.
- There are free or low-cost resources available for summer learning any family can use—check out our [Summer Learning Day for Families Resources](#).
- High-quality summer programs can help disadvantaged children avoid summer learning loss and even register gains that will keep them on track for high-school graduation and productive careers.
- Summer is also a time that puts nutrition at risk for disadvantaged children. They are more likely to gain weight during summer without structured activity and balanced meals.
- Many of the schoolchildren who qualify for federally funded meals during the school year do not have access to those meals in summer.
- Most students lose about two months of grade level equivalency in mathematical computation skills over the summer months. Low-income students also lose more than two months in reading achievement, despite the fact that their middle-class peers make slight gains.
- Summer learning programs are a cost-effective vehicle for boosting school-year achievement that school districts can accomplish at a high level in a variety of ways, even in a very tight economy.
- Summer learning programs will be instrumental in building a competitive 21st century economy.
- Summer is an untapped space for instructional innovation that can transform teaching and learning all year and help prepare all students for both the Common Core standards and college.
- As more children than ever slide into poverty, summer learning programs are an important link in the safety net, supporting their development with healthy meals and physical activity that in turn increases their readiness to learn.