

CREATIVE DAY SCHOOL

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Summer Learning for Easy Back to School Transitions

The summer is a wonderful time for children and parents to have fun, enjoy the great outdoors, and spend some time away from the daily routine of school. However, by incorporating some activities and structured learning opportunities parents can help kids to stay sharp and to avoid losing some of the learning they accomplished in the past school year.

It is estimated by the National Summer Learning Association that children can lose as much as two months of grade level equivalency in math over the summer, and many children also struggle more with reading in the fall. In addition, children of all grade levels score worse in September on the same test given before the end of the previous school year. Parents can completely avoid this by encouraging their children to both keep reading as well as to keep using their math skills.

Some simple ways to keep math, problem-solving and reading as part of the summer routine includes:

- Set a daily reading time for the whole family. This can be 20 minutes or more a day when everyone reads without interruption and exception. Modeling reading is one of the most important factors in developing an appreciation for reading for your children.
- Incorporate math into activities including measuring for cooking (fractions), making purchases (addition and subtraction), and flash card drills for all operations as well as other types of daily math activities.
- Kids can be given a math activity page and be provided with points for completion and correct answers. You can choose to give stickers or points. Even more fun is to have the points build up to a grand total and the family goes together on a picnic, to the zoo, or any other interactive type of event.
- Encourage children to write stories about their summer events, or to create small chapter books they can share with siblings and friends. They can draw, color and decorate the books, and they can become treasured keepsakes.

There are also some great free resources online that offer games by grade levels. Fun websites for math include www.mathplayground.com and www.softschools.com.

AUGUST 2019



Make the Most of Long Weekends

Three-day weekends are a great opportunity to take your partner and kids on a mini-vacation, and there are some excellent tips to ensure you make the most of the time.

One good tip is to choose somewhere to go that is not too far away. A three day weekend is plenty of time to enjoy a local getaway, but it is best to avoid anything that involves a plane ride or a long car journey, particularly when children are involved.

Another good way to get the most out of a long weekend is to choose to stay in a hotel that is family friendly. Many such hotels come with their own attractions such as indoor water parks or mini golf courses and are great for entertaining the whole family.

If you want to expose your children to history and culture, try visiting a nearby big city, as they are usually full of science and history museums, theaters, sporting venues, etc., and even just walking the streets and exploring the city can provide both education and entertainment.

Like our CDS Facebook page and receive parenting tips and see pictures of our children in fun activities!



Take A Look at What We Are Doing...

This month's theme is: "Vacation and Travel"

- **Infants:** For the month of August we will continue with Summer and Beach fun! We will do jelly fish goldfish, and starfish handprints and footprints. We will talk about summer safety and beach fun. We will continue to work on our fine motor skills and gross motor skills.
- **Toddlers:** The children will learn about the different types of vacations people experience. Children will learn about the different places that different groups of people might visit such as seaside, mountains, desert, other cities and towns, and other countries. We will talk about activities that families and friends participate in such as swimming, boating, horse riding, surfing, and more. Last of all, we will discuss some different modes of transportation. The toddlers will continue to work on colors and numbers. Enjoy the end of summer!
- **Twos:** We will be continuing with our discussion about summer and the things we see in the sky, and outdoors. We'll focus on the colors of blue and yellow and white. We will talk about the sun and how important the sun is to us, and how it helps the growth of plants, and the things we can grow in gardens. During this time, we will talk about the fun things we do in the summer. We will talk about water safety and protecting our skin from the sun rays. We will continue working on our alphabet and numbers. We will learn the letter of our first name. We will continue with finger plays, songs, dancing, and building with blocks.
- **Threes:** This month we will be discussing preparation for the new school year! We will be talking about all the fun things we will be learning, as well as how we will prepare at home for our learning adventures at school. We will discuss how we can include our family members in helping us prepare for the school year. We will be asking for the children's input on what they think they will need for school and get ready to move to a new classroom.
- **Fours:** This month we will be coming to an end of summer camp and prepare for Kindergarten. We will reminisce on the fun we have had this summer from outdoor activities, art projects and field trips. We will have a big water play day and a going to school party. We will also go on one last fieldtrip and soak up the fun it will bring. This will be a month for making the most of memories to and great summer camp success at CDS!
- **After-schoolers:** During the month of August we will be discovering ourselves and the characteristics that make each of us unique. We will be discussing our health and the important things we need to do each day to care for our bodies and to stay healthy and happy. We will sharpen our reading, writing, and math skills to prepare for our return to school. We will take a trip to NCG movie theater, Discovery Place, and have a visit from the mad scientist. We will close out our summer camp with a back to school bash with creative activities to engage in!



Happy Birthday!

Aug 3 Maliki Aug 20 Bailee
Aug 4 Kali Aug 23 Alayah
Aug 8 Kelise Aug 26 Jaycion
Aug 14 Jaleah Aug 27 Ayxha
Aug 15 Laila Aug 29 Miracle
Aug 17 Kendra

Staff Birthday:

Ms. Mary Aug 14th
Ms. Melissa Aug 18th
Ms. Nettie Aug 24th
Ms. Edna Aug 25th
Ms. Anne Aug 30th

Center News:

Guess what parents? It's that time of year for us to put our thinking caps on and start learning together! We are so excited about our brand-new curriculum, **Learn Every Day!** With this curriculum we will go beyond a letter, past a number and soar through our colors! We will incorporate literacy, math, science, social studies and creative arts into each unit of study! How exciting is that for your child? With the help of parents and family support, our goal is to extend your child's learning throughout activities rather than table time with pencil and paper! This curriculum will help us establish the daily schedule, routines and very organized indoor and outdoor environments that will teach your child control, respect, and communication. We are very excited about Learn Every Day and what it will do for all of us and we hope you will be too!

Parent Questions and Answers:

Question: Can I bring cupcakes for my child's birthday?

Answer: Yes, they must be purchased from a store, in sealed container, with the ingredients and nutrition label attached.