

**June 13, 2023**

Dear Starboard Families,

Happy Summer! We wanted to check in with our families and discuss summer reading/activities to help keep your child(ren) from learning loss while they are out of school for a few months. This summer we DO NOT have specific novels required, but instead wanted to provide ideas to help encourage your child to read and keep their skills sharp so they come in ready to go in the fall. This is not an all-inclusive list, so please feel free to be as creative as you want: search for ideas online, talk to other parents, and most importantly, talk with your child! You may also check your child's Summer Reading on our website for additional ideas by reading below.

Some ideas:

1. Go to your local library and let your child choose books! Talk with the librarian! Peruse the aisles and familiarize yourselves with this amazing place! It's okay for your child to read some books below his or her level - having an easy read that they finish up quickly helps boost confidence and encourages them to read more!

2. Look up reading lists online to find the classics and explore new titles and series. For instance:

[https://starboardchristian-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/p/jstahler/ESD2IqSit65Boo7RSH9h0I4BhM7\\_knrkGAlt7KyGvD\\_BA?e=0SznS8](https://starboardchristian-my.sharepoint.com/:b:/p/jstahler/ESD2IqSit65Boo7RSH9h0I4BhM7_knrkGAlt7KyGvD_BA?e=0SznS8)  
[A Complete Classical Christian School Reading List: Grades 1-8 \(thegospelcoalition.org\)](https://www.thegospelcoalition.org/reading-list/).

Some of the titles on these lists may have content or themes that you may not be ready to discuss or introduce with your child or will want to read alongside your child – so check reviews if you're unfamiliar with the book/series.

3. Use your student's Reading A-Z account (only good for students who were enrolled at Starboard in grades K-3 for the 2022-2023 school year).

4. Go to a brick and mortar book store and enjoy some time there looking at books - for instance, Barnes and Noble in Birkdale or even East Lincoln Christian Ministries.

5. Have your child do a book swap with a friend or make recommendations for each other.

6. Do a Bible Study together! Westport Baptist Church has a small library in their church office lobby if you'd like to stop by and preview some or just ask some other parents for their recommendations. Every Starboard family also has access to RightNow Media which has some great Bible studies.
7. Listen to audio books in the car as a family and talk about them. Ask questions and discuss the setting, characters, story line, motive, what you think will happen next, etc. This builds up comprehension and critical thinking!
8. Share a book and read aloud together.
9. Start a journal with your child that gets passed back and forth.
10. Print off a Reading Bingo page that provides fun ideas of what and where to read (just search online for Reading Bingo Printable).
11. Have your child write letters and mail them to grandparents, friends, etc.
12. Cook/Bake together and have your child read the recipe!

It's also important to keep practicing math skills throughout the summer, especially math facts. Students who were enrolled in Starboard for the 2022-2023 have an IXL account that is good throughout the summer. This is a great tool.

We would love to know what your child has read over the summer. **Attached to this message you will find a PDF with four paper books on it.** This is for you to print copies of so your child(ren) can write the titles and author of every book they read over the summer on a separate "book cover." We will display them when they come back to school and for every "book" they bring back, your child will get an entry to win a gift card (this is only for Rising 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup> graders). So let's get reading!!

Have fun this summer, be safe, and we'll see you all in August!

In Christ,  
Starboard Staff and Administration

