



Required Summer Reading and Math Practice Rising K-8th Grades-Summer 2024

Dear Liberty Families,

As our first school year ends, we are reminded of just how much our students have accomplished. Students have experienced remarkable character development and significant academic growth. In order to retain this hard-earned knowledge and understanding, students must continue to practice their foundational reading and math skills over the summer. While students may not be overjoyed to read and practice math facts, these exercises are imperative to their long-term academic success and key to a strong start in the fall. Statistics demonstrate that **“Students who read during the summer gain an average of one month of reading proficiency. Students who don’t lose an average of two-three months proficiency, and over time, those lost months add up to years.” The loss is even more significant in mathematics at 2.6 months (Booksource).** Summer is long, and we don’t want learning to stop just because we have time away from school. Our faculty has created a summer reading and math program to ensure students are well-prepared for the upcoming grade level. Please see the details below:

2024 SUMMER READING

Reading expands a student’s vocabulary and comprehension, leading to better writing skills. Students who read more serious literature also gain skills in handling complex ideas. The more they read, the more information they retain. This leads to a solid core of knowledge that is useful across the curriculum. We expect that students will continue to dive into reading as they do during the school year. We suggest that families set an expectation and structure at the beginning of the summer to ensure that reading skills are practiced daily. Keep it brief and fun. For younger students or students not quite fluent, have them read books below grade level (See lists) to encourage fluency. As they master one book, select a slightly more challenging book for their next reading. Mixing up who reads is also helpful. Parents may read to the student; students may read to the parent or independently; listening to an audiobook while traveling is also a fun way to “read” as a family.

To help students prepare for the next grade level, the faculty has selected the following titles for students to read over the summer. **The assigned books are required for students to read before the first day of school begins.** Students should expect to have discussion and some type of assessment on these books within the first week of school.

It is not necessary to purchase a copy of the required reading. The public library will most likely have the book for checkout.

In addition to the required reading and math practice, we are introducing our first annual **Summer Reading Olympics for rising K-8 students** to nurture a lasting love for reading at home. These initiatives aim to keep students engaged with literature and help them develop a genuine appreciation for the written word.

We have two required readings for each student based on rising grade level.

Recommended Reading Time: 4 days each week in June, July, and August:

Kindergarten: 10 minutes per day

Grade 1: 15 minutes per day

Grade 2: 20 minutes per day

Grades 3-4: 30 minutes per day

Grades 5 and up 45 minutes to 1 hour per day

(These are minimum requirements; your child may certainly read for longer times!)

Please click on the links below for summer reading lists!

- [2024 Summer Reading Program - Students.docx](#)
- [2024-Summer-Reading-Olympics.docx](#)
- [Reading-Log-Summer-Reading-Olympics-2024.docx](#)
- [2024 Summer Reading - Parents.docx](#)

SUMMER MATH PRACTICE

We have compiled a list of essential math skills for students to work on over the summer. These skills are fundamental to building math fluency and will best prepare your student for their upcoming school year at Liberty Academy if mastered over the summer.

We recommend that students spend 15-20 minutes per day throughout the summer on the following skills:

- Math Facts
 - Rising Kindergartener: Practice recognizing and writing numbers up to 20 and counting to 30. If your student masters that, work on counting to 100.
 - Rising 1st Graders: Practice recognizing and counting numbers up to 100. Memorizing Addition and Subtraction facts up to 10. Skip counting by 2's, 5's, and 10's.
 - Rising 2nd – Work on memorizing Addition and Subtraction facts up to 20. Skip counting by 2's, 3's, 5's, and 10's.
 - Rising 3rd Graders: Addition, Subtraction Multiplication and Division up to 10 (if math facts to 10 have been mastered, go up to 12, and then 15)
 - Rising 4th through 8th Graders - Addition, Subtraction Multiplication and Division up to 12 (if math facts to 12 have been mastered, go up to 15, and then 20)

Math facts need to be automatic when recalled. Students should be able to work through age-appropriate facts (addition, subtraction, multiplication, and division) facts with ease.

- Multiples and Factors – (For Rising 5th thru 8th Graders only)

- o Students need to be able to break a number into its factors, as well as be able to find multiples of a given number fluently.
- o [Multiples and Factors](#) This link provides a brief overview of what factors and multiples of numbers are.
- o Examples
 - Multiples of 2 are 2, 4, 6, 8, 10....
 - 2 and 5 are Factors of 10. That is, $2 \times 5 = 10$ or $10 = 5$. The 2 and 5 can be multiplied by each other to get the product of 10.

Regular practice of these skills can make a significant difference, even for just 15-20 minutes a day. We highly encourage you to make games out of reviewing and building these concepts over the summer. Below are websites that we have found to be effective for games:

[Games — Love Maths](#)

- This has a lot of videos that show different games that you can play with your student to help build number sense. They are quick, easy, and fun!

[Math-Drills](#)

- This website provides a large selection of worksheets to practice different math concepts for all grade levels.
- Search for Five *Minute Math Frenzy* to print five minute timed multiplication facts worksheets.

[K5 Learning](#)

- This website also provides a lot of free printable worksheets that are organized by grade level.

Other ways to work on math skills include playing Yahtzee, dice games, card games (for example - addition, subtraction, multiplication, division, or fraction war), baking (to help with fractions), puzzle games, and simply finding ways to have conversations about math with your student.

TYPING SKILLS

In addition to summer Reading and Math practice, we expect **rising 5th-8th graders to have some fun honing their typing skills on [Typingclub.com](#)**, a free online resource. Students should dedicate time over the summer to work through the program's levels and submit their progress report upon returning to school. This exercise will assist students in developing their word-processing skills for paper writing.

Please let us know if you have any questions.

Liberty Academy of Columbus