



STATE OF ALABAMA
DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION



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2015 SUMMER LEARNING CHALLENGE
Free games and resources available to all Alabama students



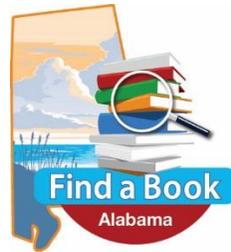
Montgomery, Ala. - For Alabama’s students, summer is a time of fun, but those months away from school can result in a loss of knowledge and reading ability. **The [Summer Learning Challenge](#)** raises awareness of the summer loss epidemic, shares compelling research on the importance of personalized reading activities and provides access to a variety of free resources to support targeted reading and math summer learning.

There are FREE ways to keep students engaged and excited about education:

- The Lexile-based “[Find a Book, Alabama](#)” tool (Lexile.com/fab/Alabama) offers students over 160,000 books from which to choose. This book-search tool enables individuals to build custom reading lists based on their Lexile range and personal interests, and checks the availability of books at the local library. The search tool includes a growing collection of English literary and informational books.
- Children, parents and educators can also [pledge to read](#) using the “Find a Book, Alabama” tool. We encourage all students to pledge to read.

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- The [Alabama Summer Learning Challenge](#) also includes a **[FREE email-based Math skills program](#)** for children who have just completed 2nd through 6th grades. Parents and other summer care-givers can begin registering for the program today. Starting Monday, June 22, parents will begin receiving daily emails with fun activities and resources to help their children retain math skills acquired during the previous school year. After the program ends on Friday, July 31st, parents can print an award certificate to celebrate their child's summer accomplishment!
- This summer, **[Stride Academy](#)** is FREE to all students in the state from now to August 7. Register at www.AlabamaSummerStride.com, then log in at <http://www.stridegroups.com/start/> to learn and play! Students who registered for Alabama Summer Stride in previous years will need to create an account for this summer.

Prevent "Summer Slide" with a cool blend of **[online math, reading and science skills practice](#)**, spectacular video games and peer competitions to pass the lazy summer days. Students may access the Stride Academy learning platform online anytime, 24-7, on tablets, PCs and Macs. LTS Education Systems offers the Stride Academy game-based learning program used in many Alabama school districts during and after school hours for fun and personalized learning.

Students who have used Stride Academy during the 2014-15 school year do not have to register again and may continue to use their assigned login codes throughout the summer. LTS will provide a dedicated Parent Support Line for the Summer Learning Challenge. Parents can call in to 1-855-382-6528 for help with Stride Academy.

Teachers, be sure to send those student login codes home with your students before the end of school!

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LINKS

“**Find a Book Alabama**” is offered in partnership with the ALSDE and MetaMetrics, Inc. Choose your reader’s comfort with grade-level material or reading ability for a full list of books to read all summer! In English and Spanish.

<http://www.lexile.com/fab/alabama>.

Summer Reading [Log](#) for Students

Print your own [Bookmark!](#)

Print Posters and Flyers for your classroom and library!

Summer [Math](#) Challenge 8.5x11 size

Summer [Math](#) Challenge 11x17 size

Summer Learning Challenge [Flyer](#)

[FAQ Poster for Librarians](#)

[FAQ Poster for Parents](#)

Print the [Alabama Summer Reading Program Certificate](#)

Print the [Alabama Summer Math Challenge Certificate](#)

All Alabama Public Libraries <http://www.publiclibraries.com/alabama.htm>. Visit your public library for book lists and summer reading programs for kids of all ages.

TIPS, RESOURCES AND RESEARCH

Keeping Kids Off the Summer Slide

<http://www.rif.org/us/literacy-resources/articles/keeping-kids-off-the-summer-slide.htm>

American Library Association: Library Summer Reading Programs

<http://www.ala.org/tools/libfactsheets/alalibraryfactsheet1710> tips to keep reading skills sharp over the summer

http://www.thestar.com/life/parent/2010/06/22/10_tips_to_keep_reading_skills_sharp_over_the_summer.html

Summer Learning Loss: The Problem and Some Solutions

http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref_Summer_Learning_Loss/

PTA: Reading Tips for Parents

<http://www.pta.org/programs/content.cfm?ItemNumber=3562>