

Dear Parents,

Can you believe it is summer already? I am so proud of all that your children have achieved this year!

I am writing this cover letter as a guide to you for this year's summer work.

In researching what is most effective for your student, I would like to point out that it is essential that your child does continue their education over the summer so as not to lose what he/she has learned.

However, the summer is a great opportunity for more active and experience-based learning. I would encourage you to spend 3-4 hours a week on intentional education with your child and I am attaching some suggestions, and some skills to focus on. Every child is different and so I have included a few different options. Please decide what works best for you and allow your child to make choices. I am highly emphasizing the **reading** portion of this summer work. Please refer to the 'Elementary School Suggested Reading List' for great, wholesome literature to dig into this summer. For second, and especially third grade, please direct your child to chapter books that engage and challenge them.

I aim to give these summer packets as opportunities for your child to stay in touch with their education and continue to be curious and develop the skills they have already been taught. I hope that staying engaged will help them transition back to the next grade smoothly.

Please feel free to communicate to me or Ms. London for any questions or concerns. Have a wonderful summer!

May God Bless you,  
Miriam Holmes

First Grade  
(Going into Second Grade)

**Skills to build on this summer**

***NB: please be aware that this is not an extensive list of all the skills covered in first grade, simply the basic skills that should be mastered and continuously practiced.***

**GRAMMAR**

Use capitalization correctly (beginning of a sentence and proper nouns).  
Recognize and use common and proper nouns, verbs, adjectives, and compound words.

**PENMANSHIP**

Practice and develop the formation of upper and lower case letters.  
Use correct spacing when writing sentences (finger spaces).  
Write numbers correctly.

**READING**

Continue to decode unfamiliar words using knowledge of phonics (*sound it out*).  
Read and write sight words (words can be found here  
<https://jolly2.s3.amazonaws.com/Resources/Tricky%20Word%20ChecklistNEW.pdf>)  
Read independently.  
Answer comprehension questions before, during, and after reading.

**WRITING**

Revise and Edit pieces of writing (recognise and correct errors in spelling, capitalization, punctuation).

**MATH**

Addition and Subtraction Facts within 20  
Identifying Place Value up to 2 digit numbers  
Counting cents  
Telling Time on an analog and digital clock to the hour and half hour.  
Skip Counting by 2's, 3's, 5's, 10's, 25's, and 100's

## **Websites to visit**

[National Geographic Kids](#): Great nature videos, activities, games, stories, and more

[Discovery Kids](#): Video, games and activities to explore dinosaurs, sharks, space, pets, history and more

[iCivics](#): Educational online games and lesson plans to promote civics education and encourage students to become active citizens. iCivics was founded by retired Supreme Court of the United States Justice Sandra Day O'Connor.

[NASA Kids Club](#): A place to play games and learn about NASA through interactive explorations

[Project Noah](#): Explore and document wildlife — be a citizen scientist!

[Design Squad Nation](#): Be creative and help people through engineering, from PBS

[My Wonderful World](#): A multimedia tour of our seven continents from the Smithsonian

[PBS KIDS Lab](#): Educational games, activities and mobile apps, for kids PreK to grade 3.

[BrainPOP](#): Games, quizzes, videos about topics in science, social studies, English, math, arts and music, and more.

<https://www.superteacherworksheets.com>: Hundreds of great worksheets for whatever you want to focus on.

## Active Learning Ideas

### Roadworthy Car Games

**Car bingo:** Create a car bingo card with words, shapes, colors, and items that children will likely see during a trip (stop signs, billboards, railroad signs, etc.) to reinforce reading skills, math, and sight words.

**The number game:** Look out the window and call out when you see one, two, three, or four of something, and so on.

**The alphabet game:** One person chooses the right side of the road, and the other chooses the left. Call out objects that you see in alphabetical order (you can use a sign for one letter). The first person to get to the letter "z" wins.

**Capital game:** Take note of each license plate you see, not by state, but by state capital. The first to correctly identify 10 state capitals wins.

**Cow game:** One person takes the right side of the road, the other takes the left. Keep count of all the cows you see. You earn one point for each cow. When you see a cemetery out of your side of the car, you lose all your points.

**Animals galore:** Decide on a number of points for each animal that you see (cow = 1 point, horse = 1 point, pig = 2 points, etc.). As you drive, add up the points. Play until one person gets 10 points, or for a set time.

**Math with license plates:** Use the numbers on license plates to practice addition, subtraction, multiplication, and number patterns and see just how creative kids can get!