

# Summer Reading Together Lesson Plan

Help your students avoid the summer slide by using the three mini-lessons below to prepare them for summer reading fun.

Did you know that two months of reading skills are lost over the summer? Just because the school year is coming to an end, that doesn't mean students should stop reading. Help turn summer slide into summer success.

**Each mini-lesson should take approximately 15-20 minutes to complete.**

**LESSON 1:** Book Selection – Students will learn how to select books on their interest level instead of their decoding level.

**LESSON 2:** Build Comprehension Strategies – Students will be able to summarize text to develop sequence of events in a story.

**LESSON 3:** Progress Monitoring and Student Motivation – Students will learn what motivates them to read and how to build strong reading habits.

## Lesson 1: Book Selection

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- > Summer Featured Audiobooks (1 Per Student)
- > Students' Usernames and Passwords

Struggling readers often have negative feelings towards reading and are uncertain how to pick books that match their interests instead of their decoding ability. By giving students the opportunity to self-select books, you are empowering them to take ownership of their reading journey. Use the following steps to help students select books on their own and make a Summer Reading bookshelf and be sure to include any required summer reading selections.

- Discuss the benefits of students picking books on topics that are interesting to them.
- Have students complete a Think, Pair, Share activity to discuss what topics interest them.
- Give students the Summer Featured Audiobooks list and time to search for titles within the Learning Ally library.
- Students can then add the book titles to their bookshelf to create a summer reading bookshelf.



**Lesson Time:** 15-20 minutes for each mini lesson

**Recommended Grades:** K-12

**Materials to share with parents:**  
[Parent Letter and Instructions](#)  
[Summer Featured Audiobooks](#)  
[Summer Reading Calendar](#)

## Lesson 2: Develop Summarizing Skills

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- > Two or three passages from a Learning Ally human-read audiobook
- > Whiteboard or projector to show the audiobook to your class

Students need to be able to summarize text to reinforce organization or develop the sequence of events. Emphasize that summarizing is a skill readers often do in their head as they read to check for understanding. Summarizing events doesn't have to be just written down on paper or verbalized in class.

- Listen to a passage from the audiobook.
- Ask students to summarize events in the order in which they occurred.
- Encourage students to highlight key events or character development in their summaries.
- Practice this strategy a couple times, so students begin to understand how to summarize in a more succinct way.
- Encourage students to summarize events from the text they read over the summer to their parents.

## Lesson 3: Progress Monitoring and Student Motivation

### MATERIALS NEEDED:

- > Summer Reading Calendar

Discuss what it means to build a positive habit and have students brainstorm to create a list of positive habits (e.g. eating fruit daily, working out three times a week). Discuss the importance of building a positive reading habit over the summer months.

Show students how to monitor their summer reading progress on their Learning Ally student dashboard. Login into the Learning Ally student portal, select Dashboard, and scroll down to Build Good Reading Habits. Encourage students to review their reading activity at least once a week and check off their reading days on the summer reading calendar to see the positive reading habits they are building.

#### Summer Prizes:

Monthly prizes

Overall grand prize of a \$100 gift card

### STUDENT MOTIVATION

Encourage your Learning Ally students to participate in the Summer Reading Together contest by telling them about Learning Ally's prizes.

- **Monthly Prizes:** At the end of June, July and August, four students will win a \$25 digital gift card for either:
  - > Reading the most pages
  - > Reading the most days (minimum of 20 minutes a day)
- **Overall Prize:** At the end of the summer program on August 31, four students will win the overall grand prize of a \$100 gift card