



Dear Parents and Guardians,

Our *Read Across America* program reaped great rewards for your children. Now that summer is fast approaching, let's maintain the reading gains achieved during the school year. Encourage your children to participate in the volunteer summer *Readers Are Leaders Program*. Imagine it takes only ten books on the appropriate reading level to help fend off reading loss and maintain the reading gains earned throughout the school year. **IT TAKES ONLY TEN TO FIX THE SUMMER BLUES** and keep your child happy and bright. Even more good news, it has been shown when a child reads between ten to twenty books during the summer that they likely gain ground. Richard Allington reports as many as 50 percent of students not only maintain their skills, but actually make reading gains. It makes sense. You are building confident, self-assured readers who want to know and grow. Provide your child with the right book. Select books that fit their interest and skill level. Look for books that can be easily read with good comprehension. Once the child achieves that level, select a more challenging book. Let them become comfortable with their success at different stages before choosing more difficult books.

So before you set off to the beach, or park, or that next long drive, pack something to nourish that precious mind -- a book. Think of the opportunities you are offering your most wonderful child. Enjoy each summer day and don't forget to read a novel or two. Please post the suggested SBS Summer Reading List in a visible spot in your home. Take it with you when you visit the library this summer or check the listing on the SBS web site. See you in September.

Best regards,

Mrs. Cheryl Ann Quinn
Media Specialist