



Summer Reading Calendar 2011



[Nile Stanley, Ph.D.](#), Literacy Educator, University of North Florida, Jacksonville nstanley@unf.edu
[Gary Dulabaum](#), Music Educator of South Burlington, Vermont garydamber@att.net

***Remember to pack the books?
Daily reading can prevent summer slump.***

Print and Post these calendars on your refrigerator:

Enchanted Learning: Activity Calendar
<http://www.enchantedlearning.com/activitycalendars/>

Reading is Fundamental: Monthly Reading Activity Calendar (English and Spanish)
<http://www.rif.org/us/literacy-resources/activities/monthly-activity-calendars.htm>

PBS Kids Raising Readers Activity Calendar (English and Spanish)
<http://pbskids.org/island/activities/calendar/>

Family Reading Partnership
<http://www.familyreading.org/i-summerreading.htm>



Read Songs, Sing Books! (Excerpt)
by Gary Dulabaum





Nile Crocodile and Gary D., “Reading Travels Well”



Volume 2, Number 4, Summer 2011 A free feature of the Department of Childhood Education, University of North Florida, 1 UNF Drive, Jacksonville, FL 32224 nstanley@unf.edu, 904-620-1849 Please support literacy and email to others.

Reading travels well if parents pack their creativity and vacationing students can bring home better reading skills. Long, tedious travel trips can be turned into productive learning experiences. Sophisticated equipment is not required to teach children.

Tying reading to real-life experiences makes learning more fun and also more effective. Cross-country vacations or short trips to a museum, craft show, or zoo provide a wonderful opportunity for creative parents to help their children develop school skills. Talking about the trip will develop background knowledge and enhance vocabulary.

The educational activities provided in the previous page's linked reading calendars and these suggestions travel well:

- Help your child compile a list of friends' and relatives' addresses for postcards or E-cards on the trip, have the child write or dictate news about his/her vacation.
- Practice reading the road signs, billboards, maps, and menus along the way.
- List license plates by having children read and call out each one they see. For more advanced students, practice naming the capital for each state when they see its license plate. Take along an almanac to check answers.
- Pack a book for passengers to read aloud on the trip. Books on tape, CD or MP3 can be played in the car for the entire family and an individual child can follow and read-along book on a Ipod/CD Player. Parents can record books themselves for children prior to travel or purchase or borrow audio books from the library.
- Use maps for reading and geography practice. Have your children name towns they know and help them trace the route on your trip. Compute mileage, estimated time of arrival, and travel expenses.
- After your trip, have your children make a scrapbook about their vacation. Let them take snapshots or illustrate their favorite sights. Have them dictate or write captions to go with the pictures. Keep a daily log. Use a computer or other portable device to make a digital diary and photo journal. Use software like Movie Maker or Photo Story for children to tell their travel tales with pizzazz!
- When you unpack at home, use the empty bags to start a reading/writing suitcase for your child. Travel brochures, postcards, souvenirs, books, pencils, paper and drawing materials can be kept together in the luggage till the next trip.

Now don't forget to have children check the snail mail, email, Face Book, and Twitter everyday to see if anyone has answered all those postcards and e-messages they sent on the trip. Post a wall size map in the home, and use colored pins or post-it notes to mark places of origin for incoming mail.

Keep a poem in your pocket, a story in your soul, and a song in your heart on the path to literacy! Just reading 15 minutes more per day will increase the amount of books your children read in a lifetime by 1,000 books!

Book Nile Stanley and Gary Dulabaum for a conference, workshop, show or school assembly. Upcoming Appearance: February 23-25, 2011 Nebraska State Reading Conference, Kearney.