

KUMON CONNECTION NEWSLETTER



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Keeping the Kumon Momentum Through Summer

Summertime is a break from school, but it should not be a break from learning. In fact, summer is the perfect time to get ahead in Kumon! During the school year, students have long days in the classroom, homework, and Kumon. In the summer time, many excellent students increase their daily number of worksheets to keep their brains stimulated through enrichment. In addition, kids who immerse themselves in learning will have an academic advantage in the new school year.

In addition to Kumon, there are simple things parents can do to help students keep skills sharp through the summer. Reading books each day goes a long way towards developing valuable vocabulary and comprehension skills. This essential activity sometimes gets overlooked in the hustle and bustle of daily life. Summer is the perfect time to get into a daily routine of book reading. You can incorporate reading into the bedtime routine or if your child is an early riser, this is a great activity first thing in the morning.

Taking the whole summer off from learning has been proven to have undesirable effects leading to unwanted results. Research shows that most kids lose two and a half months of their math computation skills between school grades. The same loss can happen in reading during the summer. Just imagine your child forgetting everything he's learned in April and May by the time school begins. Kids affected by the "summer slide" will not only struggle to keep up with new content in the new school year, but may need to relearn skills in the process.

The good news is there is plenty of time in the summer for fun and for Kumon. Speak to your Instructor soon about your summer plans for vacation and for learning.

Kumon Success Story - Stephanie

Dual Program Completer Stephanie Zhao is among the six percent of accepted applicants that will attend Harvard University this fall. She enrolled in Kumon in the second grade and completed both the math and reading programs in three short years by the age of 10 years old. Her academic success didn't stop there. She received perfect scores on the ACT, PSAT, SAT and SAT subject tests of math and chemistry.

Harvard-bound Stephanie answers a few questions about the college admission process.

1. Why did you choose Harvard?

Harvard was always my dream school and first choice. In fact, I didn't even apply to any other Ivy League schools. I spent two summers taking general chemistry and organic chemistry classes at Harvard and absolutely fell in love with the campus, the history and the city of Boston. I always knew that's where I wanted to go.

2. How did Kumon help prepare you for the college admissions process?

I personally feel that Kumon is a big reason for my success. It laid a strong foundation for me in math and reading and cultivated a love for learning that I still carry with me today. And outside of the classroom, Kumon helped with my moral development and competitiveness. Because Kumon made my school work easier, I was able to devote more time to extracurricular activities and really build a strong application.

3. Do you think Kumon played a role in your standardized testing success and what advice do you have for other Kumon students?

Kumon definitely contributed to my success with the standardized tests. The precision, responsibility, motivation and work ethic I developed while completing the Kumon program definitely carried over as I prepared for the standardized tests. My biggest piece of advice is to stick with Kumon even when it gets more difficult. Don't see it as a chore, but as an opportunity. Take the work ethic that you develop and apply that to the practice and studying for the tests.

RRL Book of the Month: *Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge* by Mem Fox

RRL All, reading level: grades 1 to 3

Wilfrid Gordon McDonald Partridge is a young boy who lives next to a retirement home. He has befriended all of the residents, but his favorite is Miss Nancy. When he learns Miss Nancy has lost her memory, he sets off to help her find it. He has no idea how or if his own collection of memories will help Miss Nancy, but he is determined to try.