



ILA CHAPTER AFFILIATE

May 2018 - Literacy Strategy Spotlight

Teacher-Family Connections and Summer Literacy

Barbara J. Boone (2018) describes the importance of teacher-family connections in ensuring students early success in schools. In her article, Boone features four steps to building this collaboration.

1. Begin with great expectations
2. Bring joy to reading at home
3. Share reading progress
4. Build partnership

Boone (2018) continues to say, "Early in the school year or summer, get to know families' interests, traditions, jobs, languages, and favorite outings... send books home that speak to families lives and languages." Summer is not only a great opportunity for teachers and students to relax and recharge, but it's also an opportunity for students to build confidence and practice their literacy skills in a comfortable environment.

To mitigate "summer slide," TALE committee directors and board members shared strategies and tips on Twitter for May's #TALEtalk. Below you will find the most liked strategies shared in this discussion.



Alida Hudson @alida_hudson · May 15

Replying to @TXLiteracyEd

A4: When I was in the classroom, I used to send books from readinga-z to students through the mail every few weeks. I would always write them a brief letter with it and encourage them to write back. #TALEtalk



1



1



7



Alida Hudson @alida_hudson · May 15

Replying to @DoctorKChilds

I think showing Parents that writing can be as simple as helping make a grocery list helps too! It doesn't have to be a long drawn out task, just real life writing that we do everyday as adults! #TALEtalk



2



1



4





Matt Panozzo @M_Panozzo · May 15

A1 Read as a family or listen to an audiobook together. It doesn't need to be complicated. Read together. Discuss together. Many YA books have discussion questions in the appendix or online through the publisher #TALEtalk



Melinda Butler @melindasbutler · May 15

Replying to @TXLiteracyEd

One summer, we bought all the exiting 5th graders the pre AP book, and sent them home with a journal to read and reflect. Sent post card reminders, and gave the option of online response. Some students participated; many did not.

#TALEtalk



Dr. K. Childs   @DoctorKChilds · May 15

Q1: I advise parents to take their students on library and bookstore field trips. Find new and exciting places near you to find books and resources, and new and exciting places to read. Also have children write something during each day (can be done electronically) #TALEtalk



References

Boone, B. J. (2018). Sharing the joy: Supporting early literacy with families. *Literacy Today*. 35(6), p. 16-17

If your school is interested in applying for the International Literacy Association's Exemplary Reading Program Award, please visit their online [application](#) for more information.