

What a fantastic year we have had! Thank you for all your support, efforts, and donations you have given to PTSA which have made this year a successful one. As we wrap up the school year many students may be thinking they are relieved to not have any work to do; however, many parents may be thinking, ‘How do I keep my child out of trouble, and engaged? How do I get them to use their brain without hearing complaints?’

Of course, reading is a great priority to have. Not only does the local, public library offer new reading material, but it’s a great place to cool off when the summer heats up. You may check out the Seminole County library website for information on reading programs offered, hours, and upcoming activities.

There are other ways to keep your student’s brains from turning to mush over the summer and some, surprisingly, are as simple as having a conversation. Many students benefit from predictability and establishing a “summer schedule” could be an easy way to keep a variety of activities and keep boredom away. Here is a suggestion for a summer schedule which could be done at any time of the day:

M: Make something Monday—Time to get creative! Craft kits may be bought from a variety of stores or let the kids create recycled art from found items. (The finding of the items can pass time alone!)

T: Time to Read Tuesday—Head to the local, public library or bookmobile to pick up something new to read for the week. If you work during the week and can not make it to the library on Tuesday, pick up your reading book on the weekend and keep a standing date on Tuesday for a parent-kid book club. Discuss with your child what he or she is reading asking open ended questions (questions which require an answer longer than yes or no) to keep the kids thinking critically about what they are reading.

W: What’s Cooking Wednesday—learn to bake cookies from scratch, make spaghetti, bake a cake...not only do the kids use math and measurement, and practice following instructions but they get to eat their final product! Who knows? Maybe the kids will even make *you* dinner.

TH: Thinking Thursday—watch a documentary and discuss it with your student to gain insight to his young mind and his view of the world around him; read the newspaper and discuss what is going on the world; research a new topic online and discuss it...the key is thinking and connecting with the world outside our immediate area.

F: Somewhere Fun Friday—head to a new mall; take a walk down one of Seminole County’s great outdoor trails; head to a free festival that starts on a Friday evening, or search online for suggestions for skate parks...just go somewhere new & explore all your city has to offer.

We are excited for summer but will continue to maintain communication to prepare you for the next school year. We hope you enjoy extra time with your student and look forward to welcoming you back in the Fall. Thank you for a great year and have a great summer!