



Summer Transition Guide

Want Easy Daily Rhythms for School-to-Summer Success?

Planned but Flexible Routines for Kids

(Part of the Stay-at-Home Camp Day Series)

8:00 AM - Wake up naturally (no harsh alarms!) + breakfast together

9:00 AM - Outdoor time: backyard play, nature walk, or park visit

10:30 AM - Creative time: crafts, painting, or building with blocks

12:00 PM - Lunch + free play (let them choose!)

2:00 PM - Rest time: reading, puzzles, or journaling

3:30 PM - Water play: splash pad, sprinklers, or water table

5:00 PM - Family time: cooking together, games, or conversations

7:00 PM - Wind down: bath, stories, and bedtime reading, book browsing time

Park & Backyard Adventures

At the Park:

- Playground exploration
- Nature scavenger hunts
- Picnic lunches on blankets
- Frisbee, bubbles, and ball games
- Bug hunting with magnifying glasses

Backyard Fun:

- Garden adventures: planting seeds, watering, harvesting
- DIY obstacle courses with household items
- Camping nights under the stars
- Art with sidewalk chalk and nature materials
- Water balloon tosses and sprinkler runs



Transition Tips for Parents

- ★ Keep some structure but embrace flexibility - it's summer!
- ★ Follow your child's energy levels and interests
- ★ Plan one special activity per day, keep the rest open
- ★ Create "yes days" where kids choose most activities
- ★ Remember: boredom sparks creativity!

Splash & Play Ideas

Water Fun & Creative Adventures

Water Play Adventures

Splash Pads & Water Parks: • Visit different splash pads in your area for variety

- Pack snacks and make it a mini adventure
- Bring towels, sunscreen, and extra clothes
- Try going early morning or late afternoon to avoid crowds

DIY Water Fun at Home: • Sprinkler games and water limbo

- Water balloon toss and water gun battles
- Slip 'n slides on tarps in the yard
- Car washing as a family activity
- Kiddie pool with floating toys and games

Creative & Quiet Activities

Arts & Crafts:

- Nature collages with leaves and flowers
- Rock painting and garden decorating
- Sidewalk chalk murals and hopscotch
- DIY bird feeders and bug hotels
- Friendship bracelet making

Indoor Alternatives (when it rains, or is too hot)

- Pillow fort building competitions
- Indoor scavenger hunts
- Cooking and baking together
- Board games and puzzle marathons
- Dance parties and talent shows



Making Memories

- ☆ Take photos of daily adventures for a summer scrapbook
- ☆ Let kids help plan tomorrow's activities
- ☆ Create "first time" experiences: new parks, foods, activities
- ☆ Invite friends over for group activities and playdates
- ☆ Document funny quotes and moments in a summer journal

Library Adventures

Your Gateway to Summer Learning & Fun

Library Card Magic

Did you know? Most county library systems allow you to use ONE card at multiple branches! This means fresh books, new programs, and different environments throughout your area. Check your county's library website for participating locations.

Library Events by Age Group

Ages 3-6 (Preschool) • Story time with songs & movement

- Puppet shows and dramatic play
- Simple craft sessions
- Sensory play programs
- Music and movement classes

Ages 7-11 (Elementary) • Reading challenges with prizes

- STEM workshops and experiments
- Author visits and book clubs
- Art and craft workshops
- Movie screenings with discussions

Ages 12-15 (Middle School) • Teen book clubs and discussions

- Technology workshops (coding, digital art)
- Creative writing workshops
- Volunteer opportunities
- Gaming tournaments and clubs

Ages 16-18 (High School) • College prep workshops

- Job readiness programs
- Advanced maker space projects
- Leadership development programs
- Community service projects



Child-Safe Computer Games at the Library

Most libraries offer free computer time with educational games and safe browsing. Popular options include:

Ages 4-8: PBS Kids games, Starfall, ABCmouse activities

Ages 9-12: Typing games, coding puzzles, educational math games

Ages 13+: Research databases, online learning platforms, digital creation tools

Tips for Finding & Attending Library Events

- ★ Visit your library's website and look for "Events" or "Programs"
- ★ Sign up for email newsletters for weekly updates
- ★ Follow your library on social media for last-minute announcements
- ★ Ask librarians, especially in the children's section. Librarians love to share, and they're treasure troves of information!
- ★ Check community bulletin boards for special summer programs

Reading Celebration Ideas

Every 3 books: Choose a special snack or treat

Halfway to goal: Plan a special outing (ice cream, park, movie)

Goal achieved: Big celebration - you choose how to party!

Make Reading Fun

- ★ Read in different locations: hammock, tent, under a tree
- ★ Try audiobooks during car rides or quiet time
- ★ Read the same book as a friend and discuss it
- ★ Mix up genres: mystery, fantasy, biography, comics
- ★ Share favorite parts with family at dinner

Notes Section

Use this space to jot down your family's favorite summer activities, new ideas you want to try, or special memories from this summer:

Happy Summer Adventures! ☀️

Remember: The best summer memories come from being present, flexible, and letting kids lead the way sometimes. Enjoy this special time together!



Summer Reading Log

Track Your Reading Adventures

My Summer Reading Goal: I want to read _____ books this summer!

Book Title & Author

Date Finished

Rating (1-5)