

United Way California Capital Region presents the *Literacy Activities Kit*

Summer, while it can be fun and games, is also a great opportunity for children to retain their knowledge. The *Literacy Activities Kit* is aimed at combatting summer learning loss and preventing the gap in learning so that the child may return to school with their knowledge intact and ready for new material.

Each *Literacy Activity Kit* set comes equipped with Kindergarten to Third Grade literacy activities. Each set has around 45 activities focused on various skills such as phonemic and phonological awareness, phonics, and fluency. It is entirely up to you how you wish to mix and match these activities and incorporate them into your curriculum.

How it Works:

Each activity comes with a set of instructions. The activities are meant to be supervised by an appropriate instructor. There are individual and group activities.

There is a quick 1 minute assessment for each grade level. Please administer the assessment at the beginning and end of your summer program to your students and turn in the results to United Way.

Skills Set:

Fluency – the ability to read with appropriate speed, accuracy, and proper expression. In order to understand what they read, children must be able to read fluently and with automaticity whether they are reading aloud or silently. When reading aloud, fluent readers read in phrases and add intonation appropriately.

Phonics – the relationship between sounds and their spellings. The goal of phonics instruction is to teach students the most common sound-spelling relationships so that they can decode, or sound out, words. This decoding ability is a crucial element in reading success.

Phonological Awareness – a broad skill that includes identifying and manipulating units of oral language – parts such as words, syllables, and onsets and rimes. Children who have phonological awareness are able to identify and make oral rhymes, can clap out the number of syllables in a word, and can recognize words with the same initial sounds like 'money' and 'mother.'

Phonemic Awareness - the specific ability to focus on and manipulate individual sounds (phonemes) in spoken words. Phonemes are the smallest units comprising spoken language. Phonemes combine to form syllables and words. Example: ball-3 phonemes (/b/ /aw/ /l/).