

# Summer Learning Loss Erases Gains from the School Year

Low-income children lose **2+ months** of reading achievement every summer <sup>1</sup>

Summer learning loss explains **Two Thirds** of the achievement gap between low and middle-income children. <sup>3</sup>

By 5<sup>th</sup> grade, low-income children without summer learning opportunities are already **2 years** behind their peers <sup>2</sup>

## But Summer Learning Programs Keep Students Growing!

### Common Core

Students and staff practice

**4+**

Common Core skills<sup>4</sup>, through:

- ✓ Open-ended questions
- ✓ Project-based learning
- ✓ Student facilitation
- ✓ Presentations

### Student Achievement

Students increase their skills by

**1/3**

of a grade level in reading and vocabulary, including English language learners.<sup>5</sup>

### Student Engagement

**84%**

of students report improved ability and motivation in school work.<sup>5</sup>

Students show strong school day attendance and are 1/3 less likely to be chronically absent.<sup>5</sup>

### School Climate

**94%**

of students believe they can get better at something by trying hard.<sup>5</sup>

**83%** of students say the program helps them like school.<sup>5</sup>

**93%** of teachers report better relationships with students.<sup>7</sup>

## Six Signs of a Great Summer Learning Program

### Broadens youth horizons

Exposes them to new adventures, skills and ideas.

(ex. a nature walk, new computer program, museum visit or live performance).

### Helps youth build mastery

Improves doing something they enjoy and care about.

(ex. creating a neighborhood garden, writing a healthy snacks cookbook or operating a robot).

### Fosters cooperative learning

Work with their friends on team projects and group activities.

(ex. a neighborhood clean-up, group presentation or canned food drive).

### Includes a wide variety of fun and engaging activities

(ex. reading, writing, math, science, arts and public service projects)

### Promotes healthy habits

Provides nutritious food, physical recreation and outdoor activities.

### Lasts at least one month

Gives youth enough time to benefit from their summer learning experiences.

<sup>1</sup> Cooper, 2006

<sup>2</sup> Alexander, Entwistle 1992 & 1994

<sup>3</sup> Alexander, 1992

<sup>4</sup> Perry, Getting a Head Start on the Common Core,

Partnership for Children & Youth, 2013

<sup>5</sup> Newhouse, Summer Matters: How Summer Learning Strengthens Students'

Success, Public Profit, 2012

<sup>7</sup> NSLA/Walmart Study, Summer's Influence On Teaching and Learning All Year, Annual Report, 2012



SUMMERMATTERS

Go to [www.summermatters2you.net](http://www.summermatters2you.net) for more information on summer learning.