

Catch the Summer Reading BUZZ!

10 Non-Book Activities That Encourage Reading in the Holidays!

1. **Play Board Games** *Scrabble* or *Boggle* are great for building vocabulary and spelling, but most games include reading opportunities.
2. **Collect Trading Cards** There are now card collections which cater to many childhood interests ... from sports and Yu-Gi-Oh to Beanie Bears. Most of these include facts that will encourage kids to read more about their hobbies.
3. **Learn Something New** Is there something your child would really like to do, such as perform magic tricks or add sequins to their jeans? Encourage them to find out how by reading about it.
4. **Get Cooking** Invite your child to help you bake a cake or a special meal together. If necessary, simplify and rewrite the instructions so they can read them.
5. **Make Cards** Ask your child to make their own cards for holidays, birthdays, party invitations and thank-you notes.
6. **Create Signs and Labels** Help your early reader build their vocabulary by creating stickers or signs for their room that identify toys or furniture.
7. **Take a Road Trip!** Write down travel directions and ask your child to serve as navigator when you drive. Give your co-pilot a map before you go, so they can mark the route according to the directions using post-it notes.
8. **Put On a Play** Encourage your child to perform a play for a special celebration or family party. A scene could be taken from a favourite movie, and other children or family members recruited for the other parts.
9. **Write Messages** There are countless reasons to write to your child even while you are both at home! Post a list of jobs to do on the fridge, write shopping lists or appointments on the calendar, or send them a funny email!
10. **Host a Scavenger Hunt** Make a list of items that your child needs to find around the house. On completion of the hunt, they could receive a written riddle that leads them to the final treasure!