

The Literacy Lowdown

with Mrs. Atia

June 2026

THE HOME STRETCH!



Instructional Enhancements

If you are struggling to keep engagement high during these final days, here are a few low-prep, high-joy literacy activities to close out the year:

Book Commercials: Have students film a 30-second "commercial" for their favorite book of the year using Flip (or just presenting to the class). It keeps them reading and creates a built-in recommendation list for next year's class.

The "Graffiti Wall": Cover a whiteboard or butcher paper in the hallway. Let students write or draw their favorite memories, favorite book characters, or advice for the incoming grade.

Legacy Letters: Have your current students write a letter to the students who will walk into your classroom next September. It's authentic writing practice, and it serves as a beautiful first-week read for your next cohort.

Monthly Highlight



Did you know that children can lose up to two months of reading progress over the summer? This is often called the "summer slide." The good news? It's incredibly easy to prevent, and it doesn't require flashcards or workbooks.



Here are four simple ways to keep literacy alive this summer:

Let Them Choose: Children are much more likely to read when they pick the book. Whether it's a graphic novel, a comic book, a magazine about sports, or a traditional story, all reading is good reading.

The 20-Minute Habit: Just 20 minutes of reading a day can completely prevent summer learning loss. Try making it a part of your daily routine—right before bed, or during the hottest part of the afternoon.

Audiobooks Count! Listening to stories builds vocabulary and comprehension skills. Audiobooks are perfect for road trips, rainy days, or winding down after a day at the pool.

Be a Reading Role Model: Let your child see you reading. Grab a book, newspaper, or magazine and read side-by-side.

Contact Me!

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Don't forget to check out the local community library to keep books in your child's hands all summer long!

Available Programs Throughout the SUMMER



Digital Access: Our school's digital reading platforms like Sora, Epic, or Libby will remain active all summer long.

In addition, students have access to **EDMENTUM** all through the summer as well!

edmentum™

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Summer Supplies List for SUCCESS!



Grades K–2: Young Readers & Writers

- ☀️ Primary Journal: Blank space on top for drawing, dotted lines on bottom for writing.
- ☀️ Sidewalk Chalk: Perfect for writing sight words and letter-jumping games on the driveway.
- ☀️ Index Cards & Sticky Notes: Great for making flashcards or labeling objects around the house.
- ☀️ Play-Dough & Fat Crayons: Builds hand strength for writing.
- ☀️ Library Tote Bag: Keeps library books in one safe place.



Grades 3–5: Growing Readers & Authors

- ☀️ A Cool Journal: Let them pick it out to encourage independent daily writing.
- ☀️ Fun Pens: Gel pens, fine-tip markers, or mechanical pencils make writing feel like fun.
- ☀️ Sticky Notes & Highlighters: For marking favorite parts or looking up unfamiliar words.
- ☀️ A Booklight: A huge motivator for staying up "late" to read in bed.

and the #1 MOST IMPORTANT FOR ALL.....



To get a library card for a child under 13 in Brooklyn, a parent or guardian can fill out an application online at bklynlibrary.org or walk into any local branch together. To walk out with a physical card, the parent just needs to show library staff a valid New York photo ID or proof of address (like a utility bill or lease).