


May 2022 REL Corner: Maintaining Momentum for Summer Learning

[Learn about REL Appalachia and its work](#), and dive into these resources from across the REL program, the What Works Clearinghouse (WWC), and other organizations that support education leaders, practitioners, and families to plan and implement summer learning opportunities and programs.

Follow REL Appalachia on:

 [Twitter](#)

 [Subscribe to our newsletter](#)

 [Email us](#)

For leaders

- Dive into REL Appalachia's, [Findings on Early Literacy Summer Programs](#) to learn about the available evidence base for four early literacy summer programs for students in grades K–8.
- Check out REL Southeast's infographic, [Preventing Summer Learning Loss](#) with considerations for summer learning opportunities and links to guides for planning and implementation.
- Want to delve deeper? [This resource](#) from REL West provides an annotated list of published research and organizations to consult on best practices in summer programming.
- Equitable access to summer learning is vital. The Comprehensive Center Network (CCN) developed the brief, [Learning Recovery and a Diverse Workforce](#) to provide an overview of American Rescue Plan funds for summer learning opportunities and promote evidence-based practices on learning recovery and a diverse educator workforce for summer programming.
- Parents' perspectives can help leaders understand what works best for students and their families. The National Center on Afterschool and Summer Enrichment (NCASE) published the brief, [The Demand for Both Coverage and Quality in Out-of-School Time](#), capturing the voices of working parents about their children's out-of-school time programming.

- NCASE also hosted the [Discoveries and Innovations with Summer Learning webinar](#), which highlights approaches, successes, and challenges around summer learning opportunities for leaders and administrators to consider.
- Do you have a plan to reflect on current and previous summer programs in ways that inform future planning? The guide, [After Action Reviews for Summer Learning Programs](#) helps school and district leaders identify lessons learned in ways that shift future learning opportunities.

For practitioners

- [WWC has several practice guides](#) to help make sure instruction in your summer programming aligns with evidence-based practices. Subject-specific guides include:
 - [Improving Adolescent Literacy: Effective Classroom and Intervention Practices](#)
 - [Providing Reading Interventions for Students in Grades 4–9](#)
 - [Assisting Students Struggling with Mathematics: Intervention in the Elementary Grades](#)
 - [Improving Mathematical Problem Solving in Grades 4 Through 8](#)
 - [Encouraging Girls in Math and Science](#)
 - [Effective Literacy and English Language Instruction for English Learners in the Elementary Grades](#)
- The National College Attainment Network defines “summer melt” as the phenomenon of college-intending students who have applied to, been accepted by, and made a deposit to a college or university, but fail to enroll in the fall following their high school graduation. Check out REL Appalachia’s virtual discussion on the topic, [Building Bridges to College and Career](#), including a handout with resources for practitioners. REL Northwest’s blog post, [Putting a Freeze on Summer Melt](#), also offers background and tips related to summer melt.

To share with families and caregivers

- Access various [resources from the REL program](#) to support family involvement in early learning and success. Select resources include:

- Share [interactive readalouds](#) with family members to help them promote their children's literacy development.
- The REL Southeast tool, [Supporting Your Child's Reading at Home](#), offers activities and videos to help families practice foundational reading skills with children in grades K–3.
- Another resource from REL Central, [Teaching Math to Young Children for Families and Caregivers](#), provides families with tips, activities, and videos to support kids ages 2–8 in practicing math skills at home.
- An NCASE webinar, [Promoting Learning and Growth](#) explains the importance of summer programming and includes tips for childcare providers and families to support the growth and development of young children over the summer.
- Need something to share with families and community partners providing summer care for students? Take a look at NCASE's [tipsheet for parents and caregivers](#) or [tipsheet for school-age child care providers](#), both of which are available in English and Spanish.