



Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools

Dear Parents,

Summer is almost here and our students will soon have a break from school. Summer provides a wonderful, relaxing opportunity to spend more time with the family and encourage our students to read a few good books.

According to a recent Harvard research study, if students utilize summer hours to read between five and eight books that interest them and that are on their Lexile level, the effects will be the same as going to summer school. Let's make sure our students have a good book in their hands while they are not in the classroom.

Associated with the Georgia Department of Education's Lexile initiative (<http://www.gadoe.org/lexile.aspx>), the "Find a Book" website can help families identify books that the student is interested in and is able to read. You can locate the Find-a-Book website at www.lexile.com/findabook. The Find-a-Book website uses a Lexile reading measure to determine appropriate books for the student. A Lexile measure reflects a student's reading ability and a book's text difficulty. It is the most widely adopted reading measure used today.

Attached you will find information concerning the Find-A-Book website that explains how to use a Lexile measure to find books for your student to enjoy. Your child will be able to spend hours during the summer break retaining and enhancing their reading skills.

Please encourage your child to read this summer and visit the public library in your area. Most public libraries have summer reading programs and wonderful events for all ages.

Thank you for joining in our effort to help students "Find-a-Book" and increase their reading skills.

Happy reading and have a safe, book-filled summer!

Sincerely,

Martha R. Reichrath, Ph.D.
Deputy State Superintendent