

**Sample Summer Reading News Release**

**For Immediate Release**

**Month, Day, Year**

**Contact: Name**

**Library's Phone Number:**

**email Address:**

## **The Eight Book Summer Reading Bridge**

A newly released study suggests the cure for the chronic “summer slide” may be as close as the nearest public library.

A report by Dominican University concludes that public library summer reading programs are effective in helping children retain what they’ve learned during the school year over the summer.

The Summer Slide is the name given to the learning loss that occurs every summer when children forget as much as a month of what they learned in the classroom during the school year.

This requires teachers to spend the first month of the new school year re-teaching last year’s lessons.

The single most effective way to help children retain what they’ve learned is to keep them reading over the summer.

Reading as few as six to eight self-selected books helps children return to the classroom ready to learn new material.

Reading from assigned reading lists can make reading a chore for many students says \_\_\_\_\_, Director of the \_\_\_\_\_ Public Library.

“When kids get to pick their own books or subject they like they’re more motivated to read.”

Because summer reading programs integrate programs and activities into the summer reading they provide a framework that makes participating entertaining as well as educating.

“Kids like to feel they belong, that they’re part of an organized, lightly structured social club and that’s what summer reading programs do.”

Pennsylvania’s libraries participate in the national summer reading consortium. This year’s theme is One World, Many Stories.

The Dominican study reinforces a body of research on the impact of summer reading programs going back decades.

In 1978 educator Barbara Heyn’s concluded after a two-year research project, “more than any other public institution, including the schools, the public library contributed to the intellectual growth of children during the summer.”

Libraries across the area will be kicking off their programs in June and children can register easily at their local library.