Section VII: Summer Learning – Summer Reading Camps and Alabama Summer Achievement Program (ASAP)

3. TOOLS AND RESOURCES

Websites

Initiating a summer program, whether it is Summer Reading Camp or ASAP, requires planning and time. Below is a list of websites that contain information on how to implement a successful summer program.

- The [Wallace Foundation's Summer Learning Website](https://wallacefnd.org/summer-learning/) offers reports and research that can help a system determine what is needed and how to go about making the best possible summer learning happen.
- Another, [Summer Learning Toolkit: Evidence-based tools and guidance for delivering effective programs](https://example.com), provides evidence-based tools and guidance for delivering effective programs. Some of the tools and guidance can be found below

- Planning for Summer Learning
  - [Planning & Management - Summer Learning](https://example.com)
  - [SUMMER PLANNING CALENDAR](https://example.com)
  - [SUMMER BUDGET](https://example.com)
  - [SUSTAINABILITY PLANNING TOOLS](https://example.com)
  - [SUMMER PROGRAM REFLECTION Guide](https://example.com)
  - [CLASSROOM OBSERVATION](https://example.com)
  - [Academics & Enrichment - Summer Learning](https://example.com)
  - [SELECTING AND MODIFYING SUMMER CURRICULA](https://example.com)
  - [USING DATA TO STRATEGICALLY GROUP STUDENTS](https://example.com)

- Building Partnerships
  - [PITTSBURGH SUMMER ENRICHMENT SELECTION](https://example.com)
  - [DALLAS ACADEMIC LESSON OBSERVATION FORM](https://example.com)
  - [BOSTON SUMMER ENRICHMENT MOU](https://example.com)

- Staffing
  - [Staffing & Professional Development](https://example.com)
  - [PITTSBURGH SITE LEADERSHIP STAFFING MODEL](https://example.com)
  - [SUMMER STAFF JOB DESCRIPTIONS](https://example.com)
  - [PLANNING HIGH-QUALITY PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT](https://example.com)
• Site Climate
  o Site Climate - Summer Learning
  o PROMOTING PARTICIPATION AND EXPERIENCE
  o PITTSBURGH POSITIVE SITE CLIMATE STRATEGIES
• Student Recruitment
  o Student Recruitment & Attendance
  o PROMOTING PARTICIPATION AND EXPERIENCE
  o SUMMER PROGRAM CATALOGS
• RAND Education and Labor Website
  o The RAND Corporation provides high-quality research and analysis on a variety of topics. Their division of Education and Labor conducted research examining approaches and strategies for summer learning initiatives and their effects on student outcomes. Rand Education and Labor, along with the Wallace Foundation did a multi-year assessment of the effectiveness of voluntary, district-led summer learning programs in five urban school districts called The National Summer Learning Project (NSLP).
  o Ready for Fall - Videos and presentations
• National Summer Learning Association (NSLA) The National Summer Learning Association website provides research, resources, and support for summer learning.
• U.S. Department of Education Summer Learning Initiative - Investing in Successful Summer Programs: A Review of Evidence Under the Every Student Succeeds Act
  This report provides "a systematic review of the evidence supporting summer programs as well as examples of evidence-based programs" that meet the criteria set out by ESSA.
• Summer Reading Camp Self-Study Guide
  o This Summer Reading Camp Self-Study Guide was developed to help state, district, and school-based practitioners and stakeholders conduct self-studies of planning and implementation of state-required summer reading camp programs for third grade students who scored at the lowest level on the state reading assessment. In some states these students face potential retention in third grade if they cannot meet grade-level standards for reading through a good cause exemption, applicable alternate assessment score, or portfolio of student work showing mastery of grade-level reading standards. This guide provides a template for data collection and guiding questions for discussion that may improve instruction and increase the number of students meeting the grade-level standard by the end of the summer reading camp.
Potential Funding Sources Federal Grants

- Federal grants are sometimes available to support programs such as a summer reading camp.
- Other resources to visit include the following:
  - The Scholastic Funding Connection for Technology and Curriculum
  - Grant Resources
  - Guidance Samples
- USA Grant Applications
- Federal Grants Wire (Federal grant search engine)
- United States Department of Education – Even Start Family Literacy Program
- Federal Funds – Title I
  School districts may use Title I funds to provide support to low-income students through a variety of strategies, one of which is summer learning. Contact the ALSDE Federal Programs section at 334-694-4516.
- Local Organizations
  Local organization are an excellent way to get community partnerships started. Many groups have civic programs and initiatives. Communities may be able to partner with the local business community and establish relationships and funding opportunities for education programs. Visit the Chamber of Commerce Association of Alabama to learn about opportunities.
- Reach Out & Read Alabama, a program of the Alabama Chapter-American Academy of Pediatrics, gives young children a foundation for success by incorporating books into pediatric care and encouraging families to read aloud together.
- National Associations, Non-Profit Groups and Organizations
  There are national groups that are dedicated to youth education and growth. Organizations such as the YMCA, Boys and Girls Clubs, and 4-H often have funds available for educational opportunities. These groups have local chapters that already serve students in some capacity and could offer support.
- National and Local Companies
  Some of the best places to begin a search for community support are the local businesses. They have a stake in the education of students in the community. Many companies provide time for their employees to do community service. Check out what the Progress Rail Company is doing in Marshall County.
- Candid.org is a website that connects people with resources. It allows the users to search free information on nonprofits and includes a foundation director to search funders and grants.
Toyota Grant Program for Toyota Motor Manufacturing, Alabama

“Toyota seeks to expand access to opportunities that improve people’s lives and create a culture of inclusion - strengthening the communities where we live, work and play. To have meaningful, sustainable impact, we take a holistic approach to how we invest in our communities. Our efforts go beyond monetary support, amplifying our impact by engaging our team members as volunteers and sharing our Toyota know-how. Our corporate giving and community engagement are focused on organizations that support the following strategic pillars: workforce readiness, inclusive mobility, financial inclusion, and community resilience including environmental sustainability and driver/passenger safety. Our portfolio of partners also reflects our commitment to serving diverse and underserved populations.”
QUESTIONS TO CONSIDER

• What is the structure for support from the LEA level?
• What is the timeline for developing the summer program(s)? (See the Wallace Foundation website for a sample timeline and the REL Southeast Summer Study Guide.)
• Who will manage the planning?
• What data will be used to determine reading needs?
• When will parents be notified that their child needs to attend a summer program based on reading deficiencies?
• How will teachers be hired to ensure that the most highly effective teachers are teaching the science of reading?
• How will teachers be trained in the summer curriculum?
• What structures will be put in place to ensure that sufficient time is allocated for instruction?
• How will high-quality curriculum materials be matched to student needs?
• What partnerships could be developed with community-based organizations?
• What funding could be allocated for the summer program?
• How will communication be coordinated between service departments (transportation/nutrition/building maintenance/other summer programs)?
• How will instruction be monitored to ensure the fidelity to curriculum and evidence-based practices at the LEA and school levels?