

Alaska Summer Reading

...An Educational Value

Why Summer Reading?

"...the volume of summer book reading was positively related to fall reading achievement independent of prior reading and writing skills and student background characteristics"

"...in particular, reading four to five books had significantly larger effects than reading three or fewer books."

From Jimmy S. Kim, a study of 1600 ethnically and socio-economically diverse elementary students published in the *Journal of Education for Students Placed at Risk* (April 2004).



Alaska Numbers

2004 Summer Reading Program

- 86 public or community-school libraries participated (at least two other libraries developed their own summer reading program and materials)
- 48 libraries ran a teen program or involved teens in the summer reading program
- More than 11,004 children pre-school through teen signed up for summer reading activities
- The Alaska State Library, through a LSTA grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services, funded the program at a cost of \$1 per child with additional funding provided by the 86 local libraries



Learn More

- Request Alaska State Library Checklist #161 "Preventing Summer Reading Loss"
Phone: 465.1301
www.library.state.ak.us/forms/currenttopics_checklists.cfm
- Contact Sue Sherif
School Library/Youth Services Coordinator
344 West 3rd Ave, Ste 125
Anchorage, AK 99501
sue_sherif@eed.state.ak.us
Phone: 269.6570

Future Programs

- 2005 Summer Reading Theme "Dragons, Dreams, and Daring Deeds"
www.library.state.ak.us/srp/home.html
- 2006 Theme "Paws, Claws, Scales, and Tales"
- 2007 Theme "Get a Clue" (mystery theme)