



Summer Assignments

LOWER SCHOOL
SUMMER MATH & READING

At Rumsey Hall, we believe learning doesn't stop when the school year ends. Our summer reading and math program is designed to help students from PreK through IIIrd Form (Grade 5) stay engaged and confident in their academic skills over the break.

Regular reading and math practice during the summer months plays a key role in preventing the "summer slide"—the learning loss that can happen when students are away from the classroom for an extended time. By reviewing math concepts and continuing to build number sense, students return in the fall ready to take on new challenges with ease.

Likewise, reading throughout the summer supports vocabulary growth, strengthens comprehension, and nurtures critical thinking. Most importantly, it encourages a love of books and the joy of reading for pleasure.

We encourage families to make reading and math part of their summer rhythm—whether it's curling up with a good book, playing math games on a road trip, or working through a few practice problems each week.

Lower School Summer Math

To help students maintain and strengthen their math skills over the summer, all Lower School students are expected to engage in regular math practice. This year, returning Primes through IIIrd Form students can complete the Summer Math Skills Sharpener book or use DreamBox Learning, our online adaptive math program. Students are welcome to use both, but only one of these options is required.

- The Summer Math Skills Sharpener book is meant to be used 3–4 times a week over 10 weeks, with each session taking about 20–30 minutes. If your child chooses this option, the completed and parent-reviewed book should be returned to their teacher on the first day of school. Please read the "Instructions for Parents," check your child's progress regularly, and use the answer key at the back to support their learning.
- DreamBox Learning is an engaging, AI-powered platform used in Pre-Primes through IIIrd Form that adapts to each student's learning level in real time. It offers interactive lessons that build fluency, deepen understanding, and adjust based on student responses. This option is available only to returning students, as it requires an existing school account. We recommend 3–4 weekly sessions, each lasting 20–30 minutes, for steady summer practice.

- Teachers will review each student’s work at the end of the summer. DreamBox users will have their progress checked through the online portal, while SkillsBook users will turn in completed books for review. This required work helps students start the school year smoothly and keeps learning on track. Thank you for partnering with us to help prevent the summer slide!

Looking for even more math fun? Play board and card games supporting number sense, strategic thinking, and family connection! While technology is a useful tool, balance is key—encourage a mix of screen-based and hands-on math activities all summer.

Lower School Summer Reading

Let your curiosity lead the way this summer as you explore the joy of reading in all its forms! Whether you're flipping through picture books, getting lost in chapter books, discovering new favorites through audiobooks, or enjoying family read-aloud time, there's no limit to the adventures waiting inside the pages. Summer is the perfect time to slow down, follow your interests, and let stories spark your imagination and wonder.

This year, we're asking all students to read **at least one biography or autobiography** to learn about the lives of inspiring individuals—artists, scientists, athletes, changemakers, and everyday heroes. These real-life stories highlight how perseverance, integrity, resilience, responsibility, and other **Blue Dog Character Words** (see below) help people overcome challenges and make a lasting impact. As your child reads, please have them take a few notes:

- Who did they read about?
- What character traits did this person show, and how?
- How did those traits help them make a difference?

In August, students should be ready to share what they've learned in class discussions or group activities.

In addition to reading a biography or autobiography:

- Our youngest readers—Pre-Kindies through rising Pre-Primes (1st graders)—are encouraged to enjoy as many books as they'd like throughout the summer. A reading log is optional for this age group, but always welcome!
- All rising Primes (2nd graders) through Illrd Formers (5th graders) must read at least three chapter books over the summer and record their reading on the below Lower School Summer Reading Log.

Families interested in enhancing summer reading skills can visit the Readworks Summer Reading page. Here, you can download grade-specific packets, available up to the high-school level, which include answer sheets for convenient correction. [Link to Readworks Summer Reading Packet pages.](#)

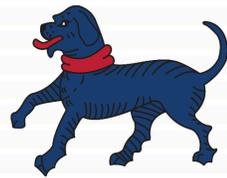
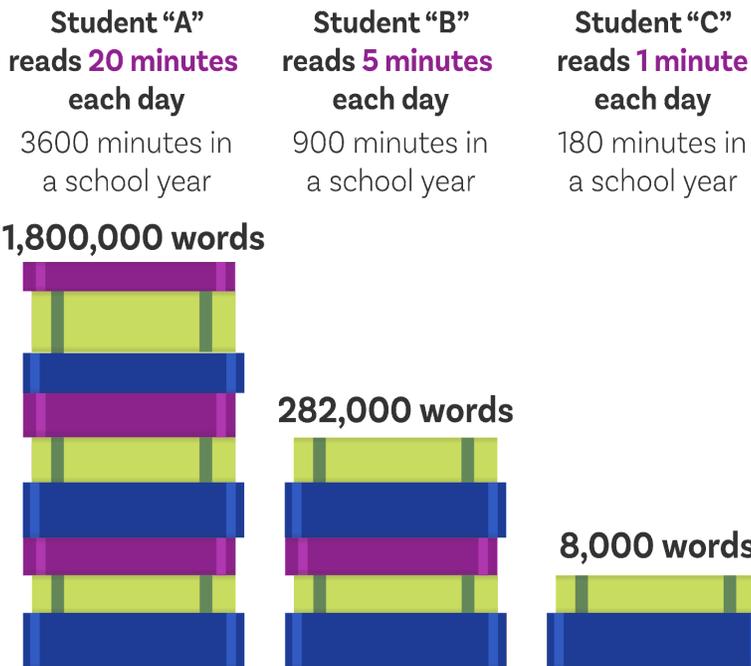
When we return in September, we'll continue our tradition of gathering in mixed-age groups to celebrate summer reading. Students will share favorite stories, meaningful discoveries, and especially what they learned from the biographies and autobiographies they explored. It's a wonderful opportunity to connect across grades,

reflect on the lives of inspiring individuals, and kick off the new school year in a spirit of curiosity and community.

Interested in Working on Your Spanish Skills

Returning students entering IInd (4th-grade) and IIIrd Form (5th-grade) can continue developing their Spanish skills over the summer using Rosetta Stone. Simply log in with your school account and pick up right where you left off!

Why Can't I Skip My 20 Minutes of Reading Tonight?



Being a **BLUE DOG** is about:

- Honesty**
- Kindness**
- Respect**
- Empathy**
- Integrity**
- Open-Mindedness**
- Perseverance**
- Responsibility**
- Resilience**
- Self-Reflection**



Prevent the Summer Slide

2

months of reading skills are **lost** over the summer.

6

weeks in the fall are spend **re-learning** old material.

2.6

months of math skills are **lost** over the summer.

2-3

hours per week are needed to **prevent** summer learning loss.



RUMSEY HALL

Summer Reading



Title of Book	Author

Student Name: _____

Parent Signature: _____