Summer Learning Programs Help Kids Succeed

Summer break for children often brings to mind family vacations, camp, trips to museums and libraries, and an array of additional enriching activities with families and with summer learning programs. Unfortunately, research shows that the summer months can also be a time when children experience summer learning loss, falling behind in key areas like reading and math. Summer learning programs often play a critical role during the summer months to inspire learning, provide academically enriching activities, keep kids safe and healthy, and support working families.

Nationally, 33% of families say at least one child attended a summer program in 2013. However, the demand for summer programs exceeds the current rate of participation, with 51% of families reporting that they would like their children to participate.

Support for additional summer learning programs is vital to give all children the opportunity to take part in fun and engaging activities; find new interests like cooking and video game design; explore their community’s libraries, museums and parks; receive nutritious summer meals; and stem summer learning loss. And parents agree, with 85% supporting public funding for summer learning programs.

### Summer Learning by the Numbers

| **5 Hours** | On average, children spend 5 hours per day in a summer learning program. |
| **5 Weeks** | On average, children spend 5 weeks during the summer in a summer learning program. |
| **$288** | On average, families who pay for their child’s summer learning program spend $288 per week. |
Demand for summer learning programs is high and support among parents is strong!

- **33%** of families say at least one child attended a summer learning program in 2013, compared to **25%** in 2008.
- **51%** of families say they wanted their children to be enrolled in a summer learning program in 2014.
- **73%** of parents agree that it is important for their children to have summer activities that help them maintain academic skills and learn new things.
- **85%** of parents support public funding for summer learning programs, compared to **83%** in 2009.

For more information about afterschool and summer learning programs, visit [www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM](http://www.afterschoolalliance.org/AA3PM).

*Findings from America After 3PM are based on in-depth interviews with 13,709 households with children, completed by way of an online survey using a blend of national consumer panels. Shugoll Research collected and analyzed the data for America After 3PM. In order to participate, respondents had to live in the United States and be the guardians of a school-age child living in their household. All interviews were completed between February 28 and April 17, 2014.*