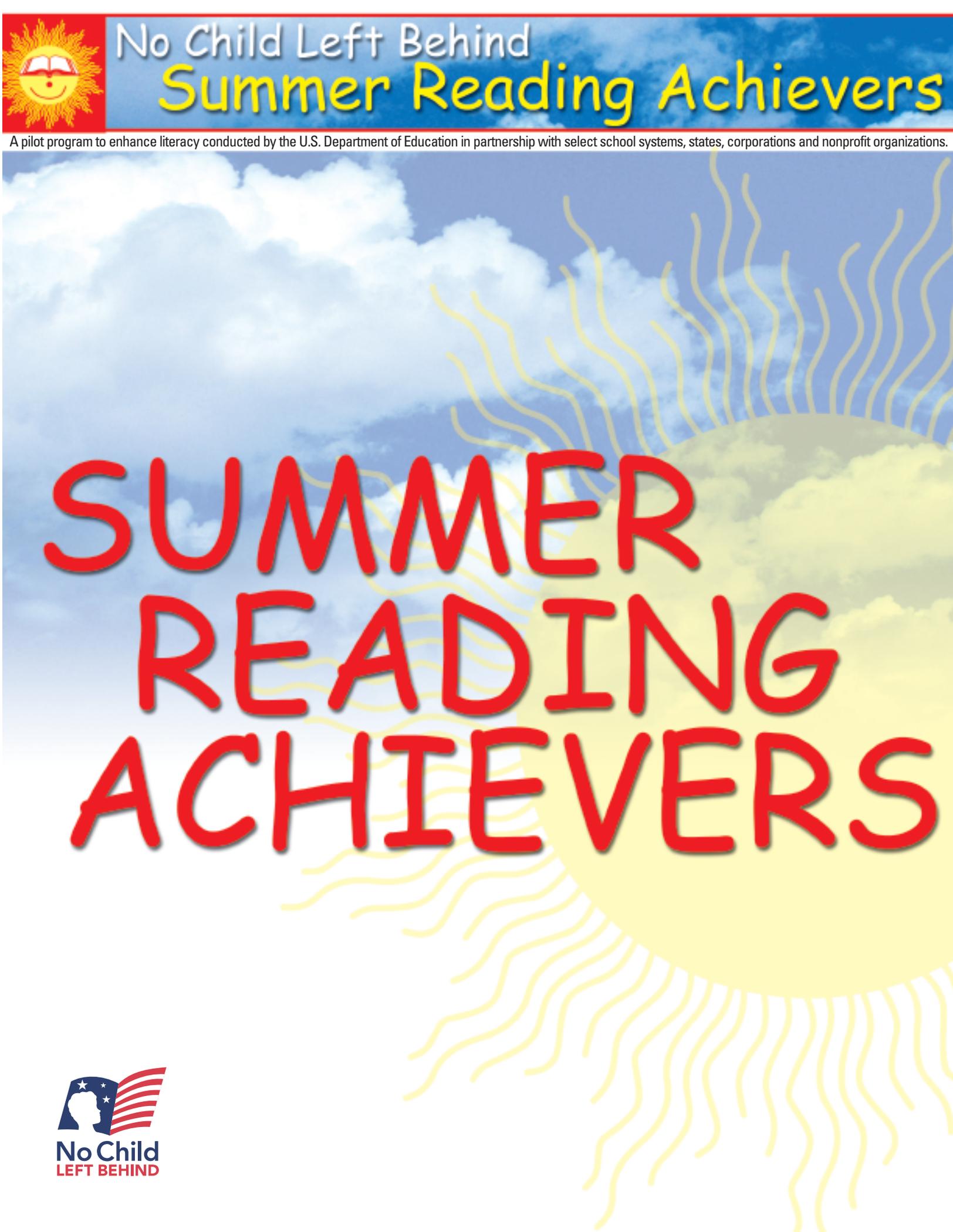




No Child Left Behind

# Summer Reading Achievers

A pilot program to enhance literacy conducted by the U.S. Department of Education in partnership with select school systems, states, corporations and nonprofit organizations.



# SUMMER READING ACHIEVERS





Reading is the foundation of all learning. A child who can read well is more likely to be successful in school and in life. That is why President George W. Bush is committed to the goal of ensuring that every child throughout the nation learns to read well and independently.

*"Reading is the foundation of all learning. Our children must learn to read well if they're to excel in life and achieve their dreams."*

U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige

The first step to school success is to become a good reader. The summer months provide a great opportunity for children to spend time with books and to work on improving reading skills. For children who have difficulty reading, it is especially important to practice reading over the summer so that skills learned during the school year are maintained.



That is why in 2003, the U.S. Department of Education teamed up with the Atlanta Public Schools to kick off the No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers pilot program. Nearly half of Atlanta's 41,000 middle and elementary school students took part in last year's program, and almost 11,000 met the goal of reading 10 books.



This year, the Department is expanding the pilot program to include 11 diverse locations around the country in an effort to further refine the program and test its effectiveness. U.S. Secretary of Education Rod Paige believes that the commitment of these school systems to student success, effective leadership, and strong community and business partnerships makes them ideal places in which to build upon Atlanta's success and help create a model for nationwide expansion. No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers aims to help all schools to reach President Bush's goal of ensuring that no child is left behind.





## How can your child participate?

This program is simple. Encourage your child to read 10 or more age-appropriate books over the summer months and record what he or she liked about each of those books on the reading log in this brochure.

At the end of the summer, review the log to ensure it is complete, sign and date it, and have your child return it to his or her principal. That's it.

If your child reads the required 10 books, he or she will be rewarded with a variety of prizes, including free books and a frameable No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers certificate signed by Secretary Paige and your local school's superintendent.

No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Super Achievers—students who read the most books in a district and schools with the highest percentage of students participating—will be eligible for special recognition and additional prizes.

**"If we're interested in having a society in which everybody gets an education, then the goal we must meet has got to be that every**

## What can you do to help your children boost their reading skills—and have fun—during their summer vacation?



Get a library card for your child. Children love seeing their names on the cards and choosing books they want to read or have read to them. Many libraries offer story hours and computers for public use. All libraries have librarians who can help your child with everything from locating books to tackling research. To find the location and hours of operation of a library near you, visit [www.publiclibraries.com](http://www.publiclibraries.com) or call the library.

Read with your child for at least 20 minutes every night from a broad selection of children's books, including fairy tales, songs, poetry, fiction and non-fiction.

Listen to your child read to you.

For beginning readers, point at each word as you read it. This helps children learn that we read from left to right. It also helps children understand that the word you say is the word they see.

Talk with your child about the pictures and what is happening in the story. This helps boost comprehension skills.

Read your child's favorite book over and over again. Children often love hearing some stories many times, and the repetition helps them connect the sounds they hear with the written words.

Stories you read with your younger children often have rhyming words and lines that repeat. Invite your child to join in.

Point out new words, and say what they mean.

**"As parents, the most important thing is to provide your child with a path to success in school and life. V**

## Did you know...?

-  A child who is introduced to words and books early is more likely to become a good reader.
-  Children who live in a home with magazines, newspapers and books are more likely to become good readers because of their exposure to a choice of learning opportunities and reading materials.
-  Children who grow up with parents who spend time talking with them, listening to them and answering their questions develop a larger vocabulary that helps them read and comprehend books better.

ts to access the greatness of this  
person is able to read."

– President George W. Bush

## What can you do if your child needs extra help with reading?

Ask your child's teacher or principal about after-school or summer enrichment programs the school may offer to boost reading skills.

Check local parent publications, or call your local school district to inquire about supplemental academic services such as summer camps or tutoring programs geared toward improving academic skills.

Access the 21st Century Community Learning Centers Web site at [www.ed.gov/programs/21stccclc/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/programs/21stccclc/index.html) to look for after-school and summer reading skills programs in your local area.

Visit the Boys and Girls Clubs of America's Web site at [www.bgca.org](http://www.bgca.org) to look for information on tutoring, reading programs and other summer activities at a location near you.

Use the U.S. Department of Education's Web sites [www.ed.gov](http://www.ed.gov) and [www.ed.gov/parents/](http://www.ed.gov/parents/) to look for information and to download publications on reading.

To receive free materials on reading from the U.S. Department of Education, contact us toll free at 1-877-433-7827, or visit [www.edpubs.org/webstore/Content/search.asp](http://www.edpubs.org/webstore/Content/search.asp).

If you have further questions, call the U.S. Department of Education at 1-800-USA-LEARN and ask for materials on how to help your child with reading and for information about after-school programs.

g we can do is read to our children early and often. Reading is the  
When children learn to love books, they learn to love learning."

– First Lady Laura Bush





# No Child Left Behind Summer Reading Achievers

# Reading Log

Each time your child reads a book, encourage him or her to discuss it with you or a reading partner and then write about it in the spaces below. At the end of the summer, your child should tear this section off and return it to the principal of his or her school. If he or she reads more than 10 books, additional, handwritten sheets can be submitted with this tear-off.

Student's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Age \_\_\_\_\_

Student's School \_\_\_\_\_ Grade \_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Title: \_\_\_\_\_

Author: \_\_\_\_\_

What I Liked About This Book: \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Parent or Reading Partner's Name \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_



## Summer Reading Achievers Sponsors Include:

First Book  
Scholastic Inc.  
National PTA  
Target Corporation  
USA Football  
Boys & Girls Clubs of America  
Communities in Schools, Inc.



U.S. Department of Education  
400 Maryland Avenue, S.W.  
Washington, D.C. 20202

A joint project of the U.S. Department of Education and Atlanta Public Schools, Georgia; Springfield Public Schools, Massachusetts; Portsmouth School Department, New Hampshire; Pittsburgh Public Schools, Pennsylvania; Camden City Public Schools, New Jersey; the School Board of Alachua County, Florida; Kansas City, Kansas Public Schools; Minneapolis Public Schools, Minnesota; Albuquerque Public Schools, New Mexico; San Diego City Schools, California; and the South Dakota Department of Education.

For more information call 1-800-USA-LEARN  
Or visit our Web site at [www.ed.gov/parents/academic/summer/reading/index.html](http://www.ed.gov/parents/academic/summer/reading/index.html)