

Neshaminy School District Elementary Summer Writing Ideas

1. Write a review of each book you read or movie you watch.

Did you like it? Why or why not?

Which character is most like you? Least like you? Why? What does this story remind you of? Can you make connections?

Would you recommend it to another reader? Why or why not?

Keep a book of your book/movie reviews

2. Develop a newspaper of summer events.

Record what's happening around town, in your neighborhood, in your own backyard. Interview special people in your neighborhood, your family, your town. Remember to include the who? what? where? when? how? and why? just like a real reporter. You might even want to take real pictures. Be sure to give your newspaper a title!

3. Sit beneath a tree (or anywhere) and write a poem.

What do you hear, see, feel, think? Can you make it rhyme? Be sure to illustrate. Try this once a week. Try it at different times during the day. Poems are hiding everywhere!

4. Create a Wonder Book.

Write ten questions a day about things you're wondering about. Try not to repeat any question all summer long.

* Why is the sky blue? How can those squirrels walk on the wires without falling? Why do some airplanes fly higher than others? etc.

See how many questions you can get answered by summer's end.

Ask the questions at the dinner table. See how the conversation gets going!

5. Make a book of directions to your favorite places.

Write driving directions to the library, the grocery store, the video store, Grandmom's house, the beach. Try using them to get someplace. Draw maps to go with your directions!

11. Create a recipe book.

Think of some delicious foods you like to eat. Prepare a recipe book. Invent your own special delicious (or disgusting) dishes and make a book of recipes all your own. Be sure to include illustrations of what the dishes look like once they're ready to serve, just like a real recipe book.

12. Picture prompts.

Find a picture a day and write a story about what you think happened before the picture was taken, during the photo and after it was taken. Give the people in the photos names and be sure the story has a beginning, middle and end. Keep photos and stories together in a book. Binders work great for this. Be sure to share your writing with others.

13. Write a play!

Think of a story with a few characters. Write a play that shows which lines each character would speak. Find some friends and perform the play for friends and family. Make sure your play has a beginning, middle and end. Get the entire family involved in this one! Don't forget a stage and props. Video the play and save the script!

14. Write coded messages.

Prepare a secret code using symbols as letters of the alphabet. Share the secret code with friends and send messages to one another.

15. Write letters.

Write to pen-pals, Grandmom, a cousin far away, the teacher, classmates, a favorite aunt or uncle, the editor of the newspaper, a complaint to a company, a compliment to a company, write to the manager of a store, cheer someone up!

16. Write a book.

Make up a story or stories of your own. Illustrate the pages. Keep them in a binder. Create a chapter book that takes all summer or write a small story that just takes a little while. Be sure to share the stories with friends and family. Think about getting your story published!