

Tips for parents and children

– Mario Herrera



Tips for parents:

Parents of young English learners must remember that English is learned through practice. This means that if they live in a non-English speaking environment, students must be exposed to the language and surrounded by situations where it's used. Vacation time is a big risk because it is very likely that the students' formal exposure to the language will stop.

Expose

The wise thing to do is to keep children exposed to the language during this time, asking them to read stories and magazines as well as watch television in English.

Label

It is also desirable that they use the language at home by labeling places and objects in their house and going about their day using English when possible.

Review

If for any reason they are not able to re-create this situation, then at least during the last two weeks of their vacation time the children should review the materials they studied with during the previous school year. This is a perfect case for parent-child quality time together in a different scenario than the usual. It's a wonderful opportunity for parents to catch up with what their children are doing in school and gain awareness of the learning process that they are going through. The students will be more confident when they start their new school year and as an extra bonus parents might even learn more English themselves!



Tips for children:

Keep your textbooks

It's always smart to keep your textbooks from your previous school year. Your books are designed in a way that at the End of each unit you can find a summary of everything you learned. Those summaries are called review lessons. You can use these lessons as a way of reviewing everything you learned in the previous school year in a very organized way.

This is how

Starting with unit one, practice each of the activities on the review lesson to see if you can easily develop them again without needing any support from your parents or someone in your family that Speak English more fluently than you.

If you find something you can't do easily, go to the previous pages of that same unit and identify the exercises where that specific topic was presented.

Once you practice those lessons, go back to the review lesson on the last page of the unit and try it again.

Do this with all nine units of your book and when you're done you will have reviewed everything you already know... and you will be ready for your next school year!

