

The R.E.A.L. Framework For Summer Programs

The R.E.A.L framework can be used to help explain the importance of signing up and showing up for summer programming, especially given the challenges experienced during the pandemic. Participating in summer learning opportunities has always been important for helping students succeed in school. It is even more important now given the disruptions in learning that occurred during the school year.

Showing up matters in summer programs for **R.E.A.L.** Summer programs as an opportunity to:

- Build **R**outines
- Increase **E**ngagement
- Provide **A**ccess to resources
- Support **L**earning

Routines: Summer programming offers a chance to maintain, or if needed, regain, a daily attendance routine which can reduce stress for students and families and create a sense of safety and security, especially after chaotic transitions.

Engagement: Summer program creates opportunities for students and families to meet new friends and connect to adults in the community.

Access to Resources: Summer programs can help students and families gain access to basic resources such as meals, physical and mental health services, and fun enrichment activities including sports, clubs, music, etc.

Learning: Summer programs can give students the chance to participate in fun, engaging and hands-on learning activities which can help rekindle the joy of learning if it was diminished during the challenging school year.

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