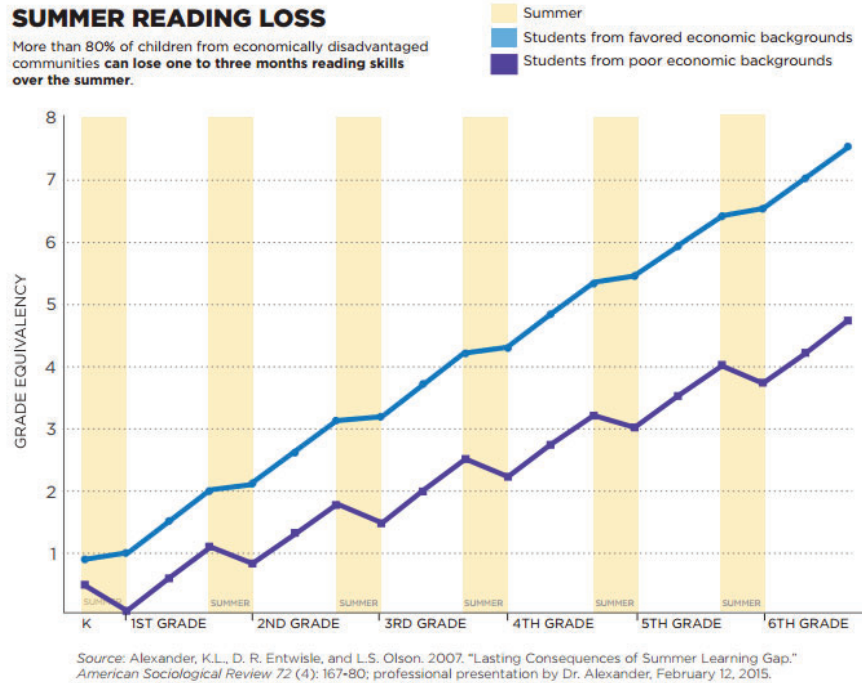


# About Summer Learning Loss

During summer break, many students lose skills that they gained in the previous school year. This is known as “summer learning loss.” When school is in session, students tend to acquire reading skills at similar rates. Over the summer, however, students from higher-income households who have greater access to books and learning opportunities are more likely to maintain the skills they learned in school, while students from lower-income households are more likely to fall behind.



## Why Read in Summer?

Children may lose as much as 2-3 months of reading skills in the summer. These summer losses can add up, leaving some children years behind their peers by the time they reach high school. Children who read in summer are more likely to go on to graduate high school and attend college.<sup>1</sup>

## What We Can Do

- Set aside time for reading. 20-30 minutes a day can make a big difference!
- Read to children and give them time to read independently.
- Let children choose what they read and read what interests them!
- Help children find books that are *just right* for their reading level. Not too easy, not too hard.
- Encourage engaged reading by asking children questions about what they read.
- Get creative and have fun exploring books together.

**Be part of the Super Reader Squad. Read this summer!**

1. Alexander, K.L., D.R. Entwisle, and L.S. Olson. 2007. “Lasting Consequences of the Summer Learning Gap.” *American Sociological Review* 72 (4): 167-80.