

## Summer Starts in September: Planning Early for High-Quality Summer Learning

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### Poll Question

*What's your experience level with  
summer learning?*

- Just beginning work in summer learning
- 1-3 years experience with summer learning
- Seasoned summer learning provider or partner



The diagram features five icons in a row, each with a label below it: a red graduation cap and open book labeled 'SCHOOLS', an orange silhouette of a person holding a clipboard labeled 'PROVIDERS', the NSLA logo (a sun with colorful figures) labeled 'NATIONAL SUMMER LEARNING ASSOCIATION', a green house icon labeled 'COMMUNITIES', and a blue silhouette of a family labeled 'FAMILIES'. Double-headed arrows connect each icon to its neighbor. Below the icons, the text reads: 'NSLA's mission is to connect and equip schools, providers, communities and families to deliver high-quality summer learning opportunities to our nation's youth to help close the achievement gap and support healthy development.'

NSLA seeks to:

- Improve the quality of summer learning opportunities
- Expand access to summer learning
- Increase demand for summer learning



**Plan with the End in Mind**



## Review Data

- Attendance
- Teacher/Staff Surveys
- Youth Outcomes
  - Standardized academic assessments
  - Non-academic surveys
  - Performance-based assessments
- Parent Satisfaction



## Data-Driven Planning

- Who came to the program last year? How often? When?
- Who didn't?
- Did the program collect evidence of a change in participant skill, knowledge or behavior?
- How did program attendance affect youth outcomes?



## Data-Driven Planning

- How do we expect this change in skill, knowledge or behavior to show up in school? Can we capture that?



## Confirm Focus & Scope

- School district benchmark data
- Focus groups/interviews
- Gaps in service in neighborhoods or age groups
- Available facilities
- Available partners



## Poll Question

*When is the best time to begin youth recruitment?*

- January/February
- March/April
- May/June



## Set Goals

- Think narrow and deep
- Get SMART
  - Specific, Measurable, Attainable, Relevant and Time Limited
  - Change in skill, knowledge or behavior



## Set Goals

**Weak Goal:** Youth will have access to reading materials.

**Output Goal:** All youth will read at least 5 age-appropriate books this summer.



## Set Goals

**Outcome Goal:** At least 75% of youth will show an increase in engagement in reading from the beginning to the end of the summer program.

**Outcome Goal:** At least 50% of youth will show a two month gain in grade level equivalent reading skills.



## Determine Budget

- Identify available funding and resources
  - Public
  - Private
  - In-kind
- Curriculum and books
- Transportation
- Meals
- Special Events and Field Trips



## Poll Question

*When do you receive the funding for your summer learning program?*

- Already have it; multi-year grant
- At least five months prior to the program
- At least two months prior to the program
- Less than two months prior to the program



## Set Staffing Plan

- Develop staff competencies
- Invite high quality staff to return
- Consider staffing partnerships:
  - College or graduate students, residents, volunteers, alumni, teaching artists



## Meet with Principals/CBOs

- Teacher Recruitment Plan
- Youth Recruitment Plan
  - Door-to-door outreach
  - Family events
  - Incentives

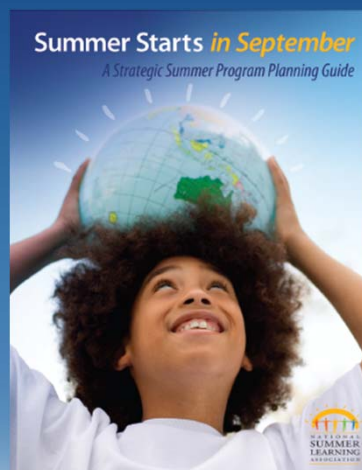




## Events and Resources



## Planning Guide



Full of tips and tools to use to plan your program, train your staff and evaluate your success.

Available at [www.summerlearning.org](http://www.summerlearning.org) in Publications and Resources





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As soon as the most recent summer slips into the past, it is time to start thinking, assessing, and planning — while summer's lessons are still fresh in your mind. In this four-hour workshop, participants will receive the Comprehensive Assessment of Summer Programs (CASP) quality standards and hear and practice ideas for using them in a continuous program improvement process designed by the National Summer Learning Association.

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*October 18, 2012*



**Contact Us!**

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*Find research and other resources at  
summerlearning.org.*

