**What is the summer slide?**

Over summer vacation, children typically read less than they do during the school year which puts them at risk of losing some of the literacy skills developed during the academic year. Children can lose upward of a month (and even up to three months if living in poverty) of skills or knowledge in math, reading, and language arts each summer - this is referred to as the summer slide. The summer slide is cumulative, meaning that if preventative measures are not taken, the child’s future academic success could be threatened.

**What is the Lit Kit?**

It is a "program in a box" that was designed to help reduce the summer slide by providing to summer camps and programs resources that assists them in integrating literacy into their daily activities.

**What’s included?**

**Box**
- includes the Lit Kit guidebook and CD
- contains sample program materials needed for some of the activities

**Guidebook**
- divided by age group (4-6 and 7-12) and includes activities, games, and crafts which promote literacy development
- tips for implementing additional reading and literacy measures in your program, as well as for overcoming challenges and supporting children struggling with reading

**CD**
- includes templates for printing that accompany the suggested activities and crafts
- lists of recommended books based on age, reading level, and theme - developed by the Ottawa Public Library

**How can the Lit Kit help?**

Through activities, crafts, and other materials, the Lit Kit supports kids in their development of five key literacy skills:

- reading
- writing
- decoding
- storytelling
- vocabulary building

Thanks to funding received from the Community Foundation of Ottawa, the Lit Kit is being offered in both French and English versions free of charge.

For more information on the summer literacy slide or how to obtain a kit, email: swattcharley@growingupgreat.ca