

## Grade 1 Week 34

### Summer learning

The student doesn't stop learning when school dismisses for the summer. In fact, several important aspects of learning can occur that are as important as instruction by the teacher.

- The child now applies her previous learning to new situations. For example, she can read many words by now, but if she always reads these only in the same books, the breadth of her learning is narrow. Have her read road signs, easy readers from the library, and whatever else she fancies. Now that she has "cracked the code," you will be surprised how easily she remembers new words you name for her.

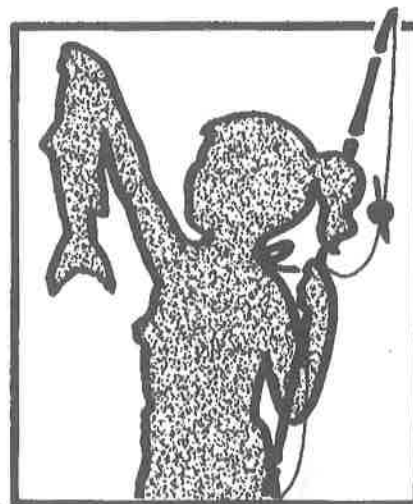
She can also apply her knowledge of arithmetic. If she has her addition facts fairly well stored away, give her opportunities to apply this learning by making change. Start with amounts under one dollar.

- Don't undervalue the aspect of learning about self. This includes learning what she can do, what she likes, what she does not like—and why.

Where does this self-learning come from? In the back yard or the park playing throw, catch, bat, jump rope. Or patiently waiting for her bobber to go under to catch a fish, taking it off the hook, and putting on another worm—very demanding on attention and eye-hand coordination. Or hiking and collecting rocks, frogs and leaves, using powers of identification, categorization, and differentiation. Or learning the words to the family's favorite songs and playing travel games during a car trip—great for memory, visual scanning, attention—and togetherness.

### Importance of sleep

Is your child getting eleven hours of sleep a night? It is very important for growth. Investigators are still puzzled about why we sleep and have tried to assess the role of the various stages of sleep. We do know that the pituitary gland releases the growth hormone during the deepest stages of sleep and that this growth hormone plays a vital role in children's development.



### The devil made me do it!

Your child is developing a sense of right and wrong. Now, she thinks in terms of "good things to do" and "bad things to do."

She thinks that everything her parents allow her to do is good, things which are forbidden are bad. Pinching, spilling milk, and slamming doors are bad things. Regretting such acts, even though they are not truly "wrong," shows that the child has begun the art of differentiation.

She associates good and bad with what she has learned about God—and "the devil." With all her developing sensitivity to good things and bad things, she can make one of her turns and say, "the devil made me do it!"

*"If telling were teaching my child would be perfect."*

—William L. Howse—