

SLIDE Reference Guide

Components of the Summer Slide You Must Address for Student Success

	Description	Example
 Skills (Academic & Social-Emotional)	During the school year, your pre-k-12 students develop essential academic, social, and emotional skills. However, summer break can lead to a significant decline in these skills since they are likely not being practiced on a regular basis, like in school.	Academically, a decline in math or writing skills, like the proper steps required to solve a math problem, or the required structure that should be used for an expository essay. In a social-emotional context, setbacks in handling stress, forming healthy relationships, navigating complex social dynamics, and self-discipline in academic pursuits.
 Learning	During the summer, your students often forget important concepts, creating gaps in their knowledge. Whereas each grade level of school is basically a continuation of the previous year, the large summer gap makes it difficult for students to jump back into learning and recall previous concepts they should have mastered last year.	Struggles with recalling scientific principles or historical events, difficulty completing conceptual math problems, or understanding advanced vocabulary.
 Inequity	Disparities in educational opportunities and resources (which yield an impact on educational performance) among your students from different socioeconomic backgrounds may become more pronounced during the summer months. It is important to consider the opportunities available to all of your students so that you can plan for ways to differentiate your support of all students in your classroom, and ensure that students that may not have had summer program exposure are still ready to tackle the school year.	Reduced readiness both socially and academically due to gaps in access to summer enrichment programs, fewer resources for self-study or academic enrichment, and disparities in extracurricular opportunities.

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 Development	Development in your prek-12 students encompasses both cognitive and social-emotional growth. Summer breaks without structured or intellectually stimulating activities can sometimes delay cognitive development, as your students are not regularly engaging in learning experiences. Your students may find it difficult to jump back into the routine and structure of school, and may need your support in getting them back on track.	Delays in language development, social skills (like difficulty making friends or following directions), and basic motor skills (like difficulty cutting with scissors).
 Engagement	Student involvement and motivation in learning activities are critical for their academic success. During the summer, the absence of engaging educational activities may lead to a decline in your students' interest and motivation in the classroom. You might find it challenging to captivate your students who have become accustomed to unstructured days.	Difficulty re-engaging with learning tasks, lack of motivation for independent work, and disinterest in new topics.