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CONTACT: Joe DiBenedetto
Lambert, Edwards & Associates
616-233-0500
jdibenedetto@lambert-edwards.com

5 TIPS FOR MINIMIZING YOUR CHILD’S SUMMER LEARNING LOSS

Marietta, GA, May 20, 2010 – After a long school year, students look forward to the summer months so they can recharge their batteries. Unfortunately, during the summer break children often forget much of the information they have learned the previous year – research shows that teachers spend up to six weeks re-teaching lessons from the previous school year. To prevent Summer Learning Loss, an annual epidemic that sweeps the country, students must remain engaged in activities critical to learning.

“For continued intellectual and personal growth, it is crucial that children remain active outside of school,” said Sarah Walker, head of school at Shreiner Academy in Marietta. “Of course, children should take advantage of their free time by getting out and experiencing new things during the summer, but I would urge parents to make sure their children are also involved in intellectually stimulating activities daily. This will ensure that they are better prepared for their academic studies come the new school year.”

Fortunately, preventing Summer Learning Loss is easy. Shreiner Academy offers the following simple tips and strategies for parents to consider this summer:

- Keep a daily schedule to provide structure and limits.
- Take your child to the local library often and encourage him/her to read.
- Practice math every day – let your child help with the measurements when you are cooking, have your child add up the products you put in your grocery cart, have your child help you plan a trip (directions, miles, how many gallons of gas, research the location).
- Enjoy the outdoors. Minimize television viewing and video game playing. Encourage participation in intense physical activity and exercise, which positively affect academic achievement.
- Talk to your child’s teacher and ask what concepts he/she has been struggling with and how you can help over the summer.

Another way to keep children’s minds working during the summer, so that they are ready to hit the books when the new school year begins, is to send them to summer camp. Not only will children have fun and make new friends, but studies show that summer camp assists in personal development. Camp allows children to build self-esteem, by trying new things in a low stress environment, independence, responsibility and leadership skills.

Many schools offer summer camp and enrichment programs that keep children engaged and entertained. Whether it’s participating in art, music, creative writing, kitchen chemistry or dance, Shreiner Academy

offers an abundance of activities that children will enjoy. For more information on Shreiner's summer camp offerings, visit www.Shreiner.com.

This summer, help your child avoid Summer Learning Loss by promoting continuous learning. Not only will you have a child who is ready when school begins, but you'll have a child who becomes a life-long learner.

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