This information is being sent by the Virginia Department of Social Services Division of Licensing Programs on behalf of the Virginia Department of Education to child care providers in child day centers, short term child day centers, religious exempt child day centers, certified preschools, family day homes, voluntarily registered family day homes and family day systems.

***Please do not reply to this email.***

Research shows that children who read for pleasure and explore new things in the summer do better and forget less when they go back to school in the fall. The Virginia Department of Education has launched a Web page entitled “Virginia Is for Lovers of Summer Learning” at http://www.doe.virginia.gov/instruction/summer/index.shtml and a flyer with ideas for summer learning that may be shared with parents, caregivers, or students as the school year ends.

The activities included in “Virginia Is for Lovers of Summer Learning” provide engaging ideas to help students continue learning over the summer, not only in reading, but in other subjects, too. They include fun things to do using educational Web sites developed by a number of established organizations such as the Library of Virginia, the Public Broadcasting System (PBS), the Smithsonian Institution, the Virginia General Assembly, and the Virginia Tourism Corporation.

The flyer, which may be printed or copied front and back, is available on the Web site in English and Spanish. Additionally, there are bookmarks containing the Web site link that can be printed and shared with students for their summer reading.

Thank you for helping to keep learning alive in the Old Dominion this summer! For questions, please contact Dr. Christine Harris, director of humanities and early childhood, at Christine.Harris@doe.virginia.gov or 804-786-3925.