

EPISODE **101**

# How to Connect with Your Kids this Summer (Summer in RAR Membership)

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## In This Episode

Sarah shares a sneak-peek into all the things happening in Read-Aloud Revival Premium Membership this summer! We'll be reading some greta novels and meeting the authors. Plus, S.D. Smith, author of The Green Ember series will teach our kids about writing, and Ralph Masiello will be back with a brand new drawing workshop.

## The Listening Guide

**Use this guide to skip to parts that most interest you, or listen to the entire podcast.**

- 1:10 My heart's long for summer
- 2:05 Steps to help you connect with your kids through books this summer
- 2:52 Step 1 - Make a goal
- 5:39 Step 2 - Peg your read-aloud time
- 10:10 Step 3 - Talk about books
- 14:36 This summer at RAR!
- 18:27 Gary Schmidt
- 20:37 Fablehaven (A cure for the 'Harry Potter Funk')
- 23:59 Picture books, writing, drawing and more!

"Every time we are fully present with our kids and we ask them what they're thinking about good things happen." - Sarah Mackenzie

## Quotes and Questions

### \* Just 10 minutes a day ...

"If you read-aloud 10 minutes a day, every other day, over the summer you're going to see a huge collection of x's on your chart at the summer's end and that's going to feel really good because we never regret the time we spend reading aloud with our kids. **We never end up regretting the time we're fully present with them enjoying their presence and sharing a story together.**"

Grab your chart [here](#)!

### \* Make a simple goal.

"Just choose to read just one novel. Or, if you have all really little kids just make a goal to read five picture books a week. Really – **make it small and reasonable**, something that you can do without too much fanfare, without feeling like you have to overhaul your whole plan because summer is busy."

### \* Read, talk, connect.

"The connection ... comes from two parts. It comes from, number one, **the shared experience of a story**, because what happens when we sit and read a story with our kids is even if we're at odds with each other or we're just, kind of, operating in different worlds, it puts us on the same side of the fence instantly.

The other huge part of the connection comes from **organic, casual conversations** you have with your kids about those books."

### \* Open up meaningful conversation.

"I would get in the habit of asking your kids this summer is 'Who was the most [blank] in this story?' and you can fill that blank in with any character trait you can think of. 'Who was the most courageous?'

And when they answer you can say, 'Really? So, what did they do that was courageous?' **You will be surprised at how meaningful of a conversation that can open up.**"

## Show Notes

### Books from today's episode:

- [The Trumpet of the Swan](#)
- [The Lion, The Witch and the Wardrobe](#)
- [The Read-Aloud Family](#)
- [Charlotte's Web](#)
- [100 Cupboards](#)
- [Outlaws of Time](#)
- [Hello Ninja](#)
- [Peter Nimble and His Fantastic Eyes](#)
- [The Mysterious Benedict Society](#)
- [The Wingfeather Saga](#)
- [The Green Ember](#)
- [Okay for Now](#)
- [Strega Nona](#)
- [Ralph Masiello books](#)

### Other links from today's show:

- Join [Premium Membership](#)
- Get the printable summer sheets [here](#)
- Get the [audio version](#) of The Read-Aloud Family (read by Sarah Mackenzie) right here
- Use the hashtag #readaloudfamily to share photos on social media
- Get the booklist [here](#) or text BOOKS to 345345

To find more resources to help you build your family culture around books, visit [ReadAloudRevival.com](http://ReadAloudRevival.com).