Dear Director:

We hope that you are excited as we start the transition from summer reading to summer learning.  We are not abandoning all that we have done in the past with summer programming, but broadening the scope and number of children you serve.  We want to be especially mindful of reaching children with special needs and those who are not enrolled in other summer enrichment programs. Libraries are trusted community institutions that can help change the Summer Slide into a Summer Soar.

We hope you will work with your staff and volunteers to plan and institute a few changes to your current program which include children and their families who are most at risk.  In addition, if the bulk of your programs revolve around an adult performing—reading, telling stories, acting, etc., then try adding some child-centered, interactive programs designed to give children new skills, ideas for future careers and/or a new hobby. Reach out to experts in the library or community who could share their passions, such as for photography, drawing, painting, coding, gardening, yoga, or dance. Visit the [SummerQuest](http://pasummerquest.org/) website for additional ideas.

We hope that you will join us on this journey to give the children and teens in our communities a summer that provides them with the skills they will need for the future in fun, engaging ways. Our programming may springboard their minds to the possibilities of their own potential and open new worlds as they explore and embark on their own Summer Quest.

Sincerely,

Jennifer Knisely, Director

Altoona Area Public Library

Carrie Turner, Director

Cheltenham Library System

Kathy Firestone, Director

Community Library of the Allegheny Valley

Leslie Wishard, Director

Green Free Library

Margie Stern, Director

Indian Valley Public Library

Nancy Hallowell, Director

Upper Darby Township & Sellers Memorial Free Public Library