

EPISODE **27**

Summer Reading: Making Memories (And Having Fun!)

Guest: Pam Barnhill

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Meet Pam Barnhill



Pam homeschools her three children in Alabama and blogs at [EdSnapshots](#). She's the author of [Plan Your Year: Homeschool Planning for Purpose and Peace](#) and [Your Morning Basket: How to Transform Your Homeschool One Morning at a Time](#).

She is also the host of not one but TWO podcasts - [The Homeschool Snapshots Podcast](#) and [Your Morning Basket: Truth, Goodness, and Beauty For Your Homeschool Day](#). You can also catch [Pam on Periscope](#) where she shares quick, engaging glimpses of her homeschooling day.

In This Episode

Sarah talks to her BFF, Pam Barnhill, about setting up helpful summertime reading routines.

But even if summer is long past, these plans will still put you on the road to reading success. Pam has great ideas for supporting emerging readers, setting a good example, and then celebrating your reading success!

The Listening Guide

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

7:47 Jessica Lawton's Great Idea

9:30 This Year's Summer Reading Theme

11:30 Summertime Reading at Pam's House

14:48 Encouraging Non-confident Readers

16:57 Pam Pulls an Andrew Pudewa!

17:29 Celebrating Reading Wins with a One on One Book Club Meeting

19:19 The Summer Slump

21:30 Reading as the Default

23:38 Strategies for Reading in the Summer

26:29 Getting Back into the Reading Habit

29:26 The Family Book Club

31:14 Space for Read-Aloud Time

33:34 Celebrating Reading with Reading Parties

35:49 The Mad Scientist Convention

40:36 Personalized Prize Tickets

42:32 Participate in Other Summer Reading Programs

44:10 Fun Places to Read

45:32 One More Way to Help Kids Read

48:15 Pam's Book Recommendations

Major Takeaways

Pam has great strategies for encouraging readers who are gaining fluency and confidence. Celebrate reading success with a one-on-one trip to the bookstore to find a new book or to have a book discussion with Mom or Dad. Pam uses the guideline of worth but easy and enjoyable books.

She has a six point plan for ensuring reading success all summer long:

1. **Everyone needs to be involved.** Kids need to see their parents reading too. Pam suggests setting a family reading goal with a celebration when you meet your goal!
2. **Host a family book club.** Read a book aloud or if you have independent or older readers, have everyone read the same book, then come together and have a discussion together. [The Quickstart Guide to Great Conversations](#) is a great place to start.
3. **Celebrate Reading with Reading Parties.** It doesn't have to be complicated to be fun and memorable. Pam has hosted Poetry Tea Parties and even a birthday party for Shakespeare
4. **In the Traveling Through the Pages Summer Reading game, there are printable prize tickets.** Pam suggests a date out with mom or dad or a new book as special prizes for meeting reading goals.
5. **Find fun places to read.** [Here's Pam's bucket list of places!](#)
6. **Help them find great books.** Pam lists books by ages, and you can find more recommendations in the [Exodus Books Lists](#) and at Pam's blog [EdSnapshots](#).

Show Notes

Books from today's episode:

- The Green Ember
- Encyclopedia Brown
- The Bobbsey Twins
- Usborne First Encyclopedia of Animals
- Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone
- Harry Potter and the Chamber of Secrets
- Harry Potter and the Prisoner of Azkaban
- Ender's Game
- My Side of the Mountain trilogy
- Hatchet
- The River
- Ogden Nash's Zoo
- A Child's Garden of Verses
- Read-Aloud Rhymes for the Very Young
- I Want My Hat Back
- Ball
- The Complete Tales of Winnie the Pooh
- Henry and Mudge
- Beezus and Ramona
- The Little Princess
- Amber Brown is Not a Crayon
- Charlie and the Chocolate Factory

READ-ALOUD REVIVAL

Cheat Sheet Episode 27

- Doll Hospital
- The Black Star of Kingston
- The Prairie Thief
- Tuesdays at the Castle
- The Mandie series
- Anne of Green Gables
- Redwall
- Little Men
- Little Women
- Jo's Boys
- Good Wives
- The Chronicles of Prydain
- King Arthur and His Knights of the Round Table
- The Hobbit and Lord of the Rings
- Enchantress from the Stars
- The Shadow of the Bear
- The Sherwood Ring
- The Perilous Guard
- Pride and Prejudice
- Caddie Woodlawn
- The Enormous Egg
- Thomas's ABC Book
- The Complete Works of William Shakespeare
- The Father Brown Reader
- Birds in the Bushes

Other links from today's show:

- [The Scholastic Study that Pam references in the podcast](#)
- [Reflex Math Fluency Game](#)
- Anne Bogel's [2015 Summer Reading Guide](#)
- Crystal Paine's posts on finding pockets of time to read are [here](#) and [here](#)
- A cute [YouTube video](#) for the Ooey-Gooey Train Tracks poem Pam mentioned
- Exodus Books' [2015 Summer Reading Program](#)
- Carole Joy Seid's [RAR episode #22](#)
- The Audible version of [Winnie the Pooh by Peter Dennis](#)
- The Audible version of [Redwall](#) (Sarah's son's favorite)

[CLICK HERE to grab your Traveling through the Pages summer reading printables!](#)

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

Action Steps

“I know some people have issues like reading should be its own reward, why am I going to give my kid a reward for reading? They should love reading for reading's sake. But I like to look at it as just completely and totally celebrating how wonderful this gift of reading is.”

What role do incentives play in your family? How are you finding the balance between external rewards and intrinsic rewards?

“It's just we have a little extra time and so we'd spend a little extra time making it fun and just celebrating all of these wonderful things and honestly and I cannot stress this enough, we really throw these together.”

Inside Membership you can download the [Quickstart Guide to Reading Parties](#). It was written by Pam's friend and collaborator Jessica Lawton. It's got full plans for five parties and Bguidelines to help you create your own reading celebration. Go download your copy today!

“I have this theory that if you add chocolate to absolutely anything, it is now a celebration.”

Julie Bogart from [Episode 23](#) says when you hit a hard patch, add brownies! Do you have a few go-to strategies for simple celebrations and ways to help turn around a hard day?