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From: **DC Public Schools** <[email@blackboard.com](mailto:email@blackboard.com)>

Date: Mon, Jun 28, 2021 at 5:41 PM

Subject: Summer Reading App for Students



Dear DCPS Family,

As you begin summer break, DC Public Schools is working with partners to introduce a new app to help your student build their reading skills all summer long. The app is called Amira, and it's designed to be a personalized reading tutor.

The Amira app is available for DCPS students going into grades 2-5 for School Year 2021-2022. Your child is ready to read with the app if they can read a simple story, including 3-letter words (e.g., can, mom, bag) and high-frequency sight words (e.g., am, see, is) on their own without adult help.

To use Amira, access the app using your student's Clever login and the software recommends stories for them to read. As your child reads aloud, Amira listens. When she sees an opportunity to reinforce a reading skill, Amira provides personalized help, drawing from more than 30 different research-based tutoring techniques, developed by childhood reading experts.

**Children who read and participate in learning activities for at least 20 minutes a day, including through Amira, will be eligible to receive recognition and prizes. For more information, please visit [dclibrary.org/summerchallenge](https://dclibrary.org/summerchallenge). Students who sign up for DCPL's Summer Challenge can also log their time in Amira to earn a special Amira badge, and it will also count toward their Read20 goal.**

As your child reads and grows with Amira, it will help them know that:

1. Reading is fun!
2. It's okay to make mistakes.
3. It's okay to not know all the words! They should try their best to sound out words or skip them if needed, and Amira will learn over time the best ways to help them.

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Below is more information on how to get started and have a great summer of reading!

Thank you,

DCPS Office of Teaching and Learning

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## **GRADE 2-5 FAMILIES AT DC PUBLIC SCHOOLS – BUILD READING SKILLS USING AMIRA!**

**How to access Amira:** You can access Amira on Clever!

1. Using your school-issued device or personal laptop or tablet, go to your school portal at [www.clever.com/in/dcpsk12](http://www.clever.com/in/dcpsk12).
2. Once on the login screen, sign in using your school username and password.
3. If you have trouble logging in, you can find instructions at [bit.ly/2u56Oj6](http://bit.ly/2u56Oj6).
4. Scroll down to the Amira icon.
5. Open it and begin to “read a story!”

**Want to learn more?** Visit Amira’s DC support page at [www.amiralearning.com/dcps](http://www.amiralearning.com/dcps).

1. Watch the “Family Training” video.
2. Review all the support pages for how to use Amira, including:
  - o How Amira works
  - o Tech setup
  - o FAQs
3. Send Amira your questions! The Chat button in the bottom right corner of your screen connects you with a member of the Amira team who can help you throughout the summer.
4. Come talk with us! Amira will hold office hours on Zoom for parents throughout the summer on Mondays at 4:00 p.m. and Thursdays at 10:00 a.m.
  - o Office hours link: [bit.ly/3vnpM3R](http://bit.ly/3vnpM3R)

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