



**STATE OF NORTH CAROLINA
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR
20301 MAIL SERVICE CENTER • RALEIGH, NC 27699-0301**

**BEVERLY EAVES PERDUE
GOVERNOR**

May 29, 2009

Dear Principals,

Summer is finally here – a time for our kids to have a break from school and spend more time with the family. Studies show the summer is when our students are at risk to lose some of the reading skills they learned during the school year, so let's make sure they can have a good book in their hands while away from the classroom. With the Find-a-Book Web site, www.lexile.com/findabook, your students can do just that. They can find books that will help them continue learning – and learn to love reading.

The Find-a-Book site uses a student's Lexile reading measure to determine appropriate reading books for your child. A Lexile measures a student's reading ability and a book's text difficulty, and it is the most widely-adopted reading measure in use today. In North Carolina, students in grades 3-8 as well as high school students taking the English I state assessment, will receive a Lexile measure in their end-of-year test results.

Attached you will find a flier about the Find-a-Book Web site that will explain how to use a Lexile measure to find books your students will like, so they can spend summer break enjoying, retaining and growing their reading skills. Please make copies of this flier and the attached letter to parents and distribute it with students' end-of-year test results.

The next few weeks is also a good time for you to encourage teachers to talk to students about the importance of summer reading and demonstrate how they can use a Lexile score on this site to find great books to read and enjoy.

During the summer my husband, Bob, and I will read to students across the state. I urge you and your teachers also to become involved in volunteering for the summer reading program. This is a rewarding experience through which you can make a difference in the lives of your students.

The end of the school year is a busy time, but it is still important to do all we can to make sure young people continue to learn and challenge themselves outside of the classroom. Thank you for joining us in our efforts to help students "Find-a-Book" and boost their reading skills this summer.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Bev Perdue".

Bev Perdue