



Read and Review a Good Book

The [Goodreads](#) website catalogs books by subject area, genre, author and other areas of similarity. Readers rate, write thoughtful reviews, and suggest similar books. Register and log in to keep track of books you'd like to read and recommend books to others. There are often book giveaways as well. If you like to read, this site is like Pinterest is for decorators or Etsy is for crafters—full of inspiration.

Math for Grownups

Laura Laing is a self-proclaimed math evangelist. She rejects the idea that you are not good at math. Her [blog](#) provides helpful instruction for the math-phobic adult. Her “Math at Work Monday” posts feature interviews with real people about their job duties and reveal the many ways they use math every day. The site also offers a free download: *Multiply Your Math Moxie: A Painless Guide to Overcoming Math Anxiety*.

Writing Coach

Do you have some spare time this summer? Take advantage of it to get started on (or reacquainted with) that book you want to write. Writer Rochelle Melander updates her [blog](#) frequently, adding articles with techniques to encourage creativity and persistence.

Participate in a MOOC

Summer is a good time to consider taking a [Massive Open Online Course](#) for professional or personal development. Some courses offer certificates of accomplishment signed by the instructor, sponsoring university, or a U.S. agency (e.g., Department of State). The courses are rigorous but you may participate to the degree that you are able.

A few examples of summer courses:

Instructional Methods in Health Professions Education from the University of Michigan begins June 2 and runs 8 weeks.

Evolution: A Course for Educators from the American Museum of Natural History begins June 2 and runs 4 weeks.

Deciphering Secrets: Unlocking the Manuscripts of Medieval Spain from the University of Colorado begins June 15 and runs 12 weeks.

The Addicted Brain from Emory University begins June 23 and runs for 8 weeks.

Assessment and Teaching of 21st Century Skills from the University of Melbourne begins June 30 and runs 5 weeks.

Foundations of Teaching for Learning, a series of eight courses and a capstone essay, conveys a specialization if all courses are completed successfully. Earning specializations requires a minimal tuition fee.

Watch a TED Talk Video

A few samples:

You Don't Need an App for That—Toby Shapshak is a South African writer focusing on innovation and the role it plays in Africa

To Hear This Music You Have to Be There. Literally.—Ryan Holladay creates site-specific sound installations, interactive concerts and GPS-based compositions for sites across the United States.

The Unheard Story of David and Goliath—Malcolm Gladwell, social trend analyst and storyteller

Watch a TEDtalk video with a [classroom-ready lesson](#) built around it. Some topics:

Climate Change: Earth's Giant Game of Tetris
How to Track a Tornado
The Family Structure of Elephants
History vs. Vladimir Lenin

The Flipped Classroom

The site/tool called Sophia has a great course on [flipping the classroom](#). Registration is free. The four course tutorials include:

- What is the Flipped Classroom?
- The Teaching Paradigm Shift
- Differentiation via the Flipped Class
- Technology and Resources

It culminates in participants creating a flipped lesson using the free online Sophia tool.

Summer is a great time to explore the self-paced modules on NC-NET!