



Ashley Haynes/Freeman Staff

La Casa de Esperanza second-grade teacher Gloria Sosa reads "Anansi the Spider" to her students on Tuesday morning.

Stopping the summer slide

WAUKESHA —La Casa de Esperanza students aren't going to let all of the hard work and learning they've accomplished this school year be lost over the summer months.

Through a partnership with the United Way, students will go home with a total of 10 books this summer, each complete with an activity sheet based off a lesson plan straight from Harvard University's READS for Summer Learning program.



La Casa de Esperanza student Aaron King gets started reading right away. He chose "Captain Underpants" as one of the new books he'll read this summer.

Kids were matched to books based on their Lexile ability.

"It's so important that kids don't lose all the work they did during the school year, that's why we sponsor the summer book program," said United Way education portfolio manager Jim McLaughlin.

The books were purchased with the help of American Transmission Company, which donated \$5,000 to the cause.

On Tuesday morning, each student kicked off summer by picking out four books, decorating bookmarks so they never lose their spot and reading some stories with their teachers.



Clarissa Bonds (left) and Zury Mahrickerwz pick out their first four summer books Tuesday morning at La Casa de Esperanza.



La Casa de Esperanza students decorate bookmarks for the new books they'll read this summer.