Engaging learning materials help students avoid the “summer slide.”

ERIE, PA – By the end of June, students may have only been out of school a couple of weeks, but according to some professional educators, the “summer slide” has already begun. Summer slide refers to the assumption that knowledge gained throughout the school year starts slipping away in the midst of pool parties, summer camp and family vacations. izzit.org helps to stop the loss of active, engaged learning with an assortment of DVDs and teaching materials that encourage critical thinking skills and cover a wide variety of subjects—the same izzit.org resources that are used by more than 300,000 classrooms and homeschoolers today.

“According to decades of research, not only do students lose approximately one month of grade level equivalency in math skills, but they typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of the summer,” said Susan Gable, executive director of izzit.org. “Our teaching materials are designed to engage students and make a lasting impression on them by encouraging discussion and critical thinking. We believe that’s a great way to curtail the ‘summer slide’. Keep those brains engaged.”

Parents can select from more than 60 educational videos covering such subjects as business, economics, language arts, health & physical education, mathematics, music, art, science & technology, U.S. and world history and geography and more. They are an ideal combination of entertainment and education to watch in the car, at home or in the classroom.

Each video features accompanying teaching guides and materials. There are also a host of other resources on the website, www.izzit.org. The organization also helps ease educators’ budgeting concerns by offering one free DVD per year per teacher/ homeschooler, a savings of approximately $25. Educators and parents can also download or stream the videos, at no cost.

izzit.org releases several new educational units each school year.

“I love the izzit videos because they are well made, brief and thorough, and they include great discussion guides,” said Richel Stocker, a teacher in Bear, Delaware. “My students enjoy watching them and incorporating the ideas expressed in the videos with our study of politics and economics.”

“izzit.org makes students learning so much easier with your excellent resources,” said Josh Nielsen, a teacher in Pocatello, Idaho. “Students love the topical DVDs and always engage more in the overall theme.”

“Another well done DVD from izzit,” said Michael Eklund, a teacher in Petaluma, California. “The video, Food Truck Roadblock, led to an excellent conversation about business and competition and the effect government can have on businesses both large and small. It also led to a great side conversation about corporate influence on politics and how money changes the views of those in power.”
About izzit.org: For nearly a decade, izzit.org has been offering engaging educational teaching units that encourage thoughtful consideration and critical thinking skills around civics, entrepreneurship, economics, the sciences and other philosophical perspectives that have proven to improve people's lives. More than 300,000 classroom teachers and homeschoolers have employed the videos, worksheets, teaching units and fresh ideas from the website to generate stimulating and meaningful classroom and at-home dialogue among students, teachers and parents. izzit.org is a 501(c)(3) not-for-profit educational initiative headquartered in Erie, PA. For more information, visit the website, www.izzit.org.