

Summer Reading Activities

Grades K-8 May 28 – Aug 18, 2023

Use this sheet to help plan your Summer Reading activities.

Complete at least 4 activities in each category to earn the badge.

Make sure to check off the activities ONLINE to receive your badges! Sign up and log all reading and activities at balibrary.org/summer.



Book of the Summer 2024



- Read the Book of the Summer, *Kenny & The Dragon* by Tony DiTerlizzi.
- Write a review for the *Kenny & The Dragon*. What did you think about it? _____
- Read another book by Tony DiTerlizzi. What did you read? _____
- Read another book about dragons. What did you read? _____
- Draw a picture of a dragon. Send it to youthservices@balibrary.org.
- Kenny's dad is a farmer. Explore a farm! What farm did you go to? _____
- Have a picnic! What did you pack? _____
- Learn about knights! What did you learn? _____
- Write a poem. Share it with us at youthservices@balibrary.org!



Aspiring Adventurer

- Go to a park/forest preserve you've never been to. Where did you go? _____
- Make a bucket list of places you want to go one day. What is top on your list? _____
- Check out a book about a state or country you want to visit one day. What did you read about? _____
- Discover a new town with your family. Where did you go? _____
- Pick up a blank postcard from the Youth Services desk and decorate it as if it was from a place you would like to visit. Bring it back to be added to our Aspiring Adventurer wall!
- Pick up a new food at the grocery store that looks interesting. What did you try? _____
- Check out *Explore More Illinois* and find a new attraction to visit. Where did you go? _____
- Listen to music from a different part of the world. What did you listen to? Check out *freegal* for some inspiration! _____
- Read a book that takes place in a different part of the world. What did you read? _____
- Be adventurous and try a new activity. What did you do? _____



Caring Community

- Ask a neighbor if they need help with any chores. What did you help with? _____
- Going on a walk in your neighborhood? Smile and/or wave at people you pass!
- Write an encouraging message with sidewalk chalk on your driveway or sidewalk where some one might see it! What did you write? _____
- Do you own a book you don't read anymore? Donate it to a little free library in your neighborhood. What did you donate? _____
- Next time you go on a walk, bring a plastic bag with you and pick up any pieces of trash you find.
- Plan a picnic or gathering with family, friends, and/or neighbors. Enjoy being in community with your fellow humans! What did you do? _____
- Write a thank you card to someone in your community. Who did you thank? _____
- Read a book about someone who helped their community. Who did you read about? _____
- Learn about a community organization that helps the people around you. What organization did you learn about? _____



Clever Creator

- Try a craft that you've never tried before. What did you try? _____
- Join us at Art Play! What did you make? _____
- Read a biography about a creator. Who did you learn about and what did they create? _____

- Create a song or poem. Send it to us at youthservices@balibrary.org. _____
- Attend a craft or STEM program at the library. What program did you come to? _____
- Find an idea for a new project on our kids page of Creativebug. What did you pick out? _____
- Create something with the interactives in Youth Services. What did you create? _____
- Create a solution to a problem in your house. What problem did you solve? _____
- Create a new recipe. What did you make? _____
- Create a plan for a family activity. What did you plan? _____



Environment Expert

- If you love a particular park or natural area, help take care of it! You could pick up litter or ask about other ways to volunteer. What did you do? _____
- Reuse! Swap out plastic water bottles or bags for reusable versions. What did you swap? _____

- Protect wildlife! Plant native species of flowers, trees, and bushes in your yard. This gives wild animals, food, shelter, and a place to raise families. What did you do? _____
- Get crafty! Build a birdhouse or bird seed feeder. Send us a picture at youthservices@balibrary.org. _____
- Learn more about endangered species and their habitats. What's one thing you learned? _____
- Upcycle! Turn something old into something new. What did you transform? _____
- Read a book about an environmentalist. Who did you read about? _____
- Start composting! Learn about things you can compost, from old food scraps to cardboard, and start a pail, pile, or bin. What did you learn about? _____
- Take a look at what you usually throw away. Can you recycle it instead? What new thing did you recycle? _____
- Reduce your carbon footprint. Try a meatless Monday, turn off the lights when you don't need them, or use less water!



Space Star

- Read a nonfiction book about outer space/astronomy. What did you read? _____
- Read a science fiction book. What did you read? _____
- Spend a night stargazing. What did you see? _____
- Draw a picture of what you think life might look like on another planet. Send it to us at youthservices@balibrary.org.

- Read a book about astronauts. What did you read? _____
- Create a piece of art inspired by space. Send us a picture of your artwork at Youthservices@balibrary.org!
- Try a space-themed science experiment. What did you try? _____
- Watch a video or documentary about space. What did you learn? _____
- Attend our indoor planetarium program. What did you learn? _____
- Pick a topic about space to research. What did you learn? _____



Outstanding Olympian

- Play a sport outside! What did you play? _____
 - Watch the Olympics. Which sport was your favorite? _____
 - Try a new sport or outdoor activity. What did you try? _____
 - Book the game room and play a game about sports! What did you play? _____
 - Check out a board game from our collection! Which game did you play? _____
 - Play in your own Olympics with neighbors and friends! What events did you participate in? _____
-
- Read a book about your favorite Olympian, or your favorite Olympic sport! What did you read? _____
 - Have a chess or checkers (or a similar game!) tournament! What did you do? _____
 - Attend a movement program at the library. What did you attend? _____
 - Make an obstacle course and go through it.



Screen Free Squad

- Spend a cozy night in with your family! You can cook dinner together, play a board game, read stories, etc. What did you do? _____
 - Try out a science experiment! Need inspiration? Check out our booklist. What did you try? _____
 - Put on some music and have a dance party! What did you listen to? _____
-
- Make some art! Paint, color, draw, make a collage...whatever you'd like! What did you do? _____
 - Go for a hike, a bike ride, or do another outdoor activity with your family. What did you do? _____
 - Write up some snail mail and send it to a loved one!
 - Spend some time playing at the library without using any of our screens! What did you do? _____
 - Attend one of our outdoor programs this summer. What event did you go to? _____
 - Make going screen free a game! How long can you go without screens? _____
 - Check out one of our backpacks! Which backpack did you check out? _____



Persistent Puzzler

- Did you get your secret code when you signed up? What was it? _____
 - Attend one of our programs this summer to get the secret code. _____
 - Explore the Maker Lab and find the secret code. _____
 - Check out the StoryWalk outside the library to find a secret code. _____
 - Book the game room and race with friends in Mario Kart, while you look for the secret code. _____
-
- Check out a kit from the library and find the secret code hidden inside. _____
 - Check out a browsing bundle or get a recommendation from a librarian to get a secret code. _____
 - Visit the fairy garden and find the secret code. _____
 - Did you see a secret code when walking it? Check the sign and enter the code. _____

