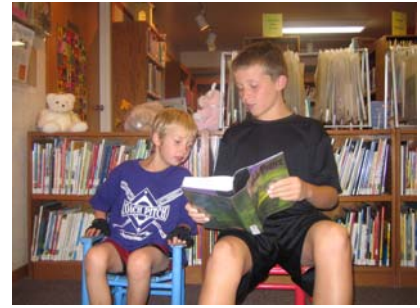


Book Pals!



What is a Book Pal?

A Book Pal is a child (ages 5-9) or a “teen” (ages 10-18) who participates in the library’s reading improvement program during the summer.

What do Book Pals do?

Book Pals agree to meet at the library and read together for 40 minutes at least three times between June 8 and July 31.

Why should I be a Book Pal?

Both children and young adults may benefit greatly by taking part in this mentoring program. Children will meet a role model who enjoys reading and will be given a chance to improve their reading skills. Reading skills improve every time a child reads: studies show whoever reads most, reads best.

Teen mentors will gain valuable experience as a community service volunteer and help a child to enjoy reading – an important life skill. Children and teens alike will make a new friend, too!

What do I have to do to be a Book Pal?

Parents: Fill out an application form, available online or at the children’s desk.

- ✓ Children 5-9 are eligible to be Book Pals.
- ✓ Sorry, this program is not appropriate for children with significant reading or language needs.
- ✓ You must be available to meet your child’s teen Book Pal at the library for 40 minutes for at least three times between June 9 and July 25.
- ✓ A parent must stay in the library building while sessions are in progress.

Teens: Fill out an application form, available online or at the children’s desk.

Requirements:

- ✓ Ages 10-18. Get a training packet from the library and read it over for some ideas and tips

Duties:

- ✓ When the library calls you with your Book Pal’s name, call your Pal and plan times to read together in the library.
- ✓ Listen to your pal read aloud
- ✓ Read with your pal
- ✓ Assist your pal in selecting reading materials

Skills:

- ✓ Ability to communicate and cooperate with children
- ✓ Good reading skills

Time commitment:

- ✓ Commit to at least three 40-minute reading sessions with your Pal during the summer.

Young Book Pals may choose and keep a brand-new paperback book once they’ve met 3 times with their older Book Pal!