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NPL TO NASHVILLE: DISCOVER HOW “READING IS FOR EVERYONE” DURING THE 2022 SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



Join the Summer Reading Challenge at
Nashville Public Library

JUNE 1-AUGUST 20
library.nashville.org/summerchallenge

Library Sets Goal of 15 Million Minutes Spent Reading Between June 1 and August 20

NASHVILLE, Tenn. – Nashville Public Library launched its annual Summer Reading Challenge yesterday, asking people citywide to read for a collective 15 million minutes between June 1 and August 20.

When children stop reading during summer break, they lose much of the progress they made during school. Some never recover from this learning loss. Already, only about 34% of public school students leave third grade reading at the expected level, according to the [Blueprint for Early Childhood Success](#).

Blueprint also reported that, of the 66% not reading at grade level, one in six will drop out of high school without a diploma; they will earn half the average income of their peers.

This year's Summer Reading Challenge theme is "Reading is for Everyone," and readers of all ages can earn points for prizes. Readers can participate individually or as a group; parents and caregivers can also register and log reading minutes for their children.

"Literacy and equal access are two core tenants of any public library, including NPL. Everyone, no matter their background, should be able to access books and information, and we want everyone to read every day," said Kent Oliver, director of NPL. "This year, we're calling on Nashvillians to rack up points and bring us, as a community, to 15 million reading minutes."

How the Challenge Works

Participants receive free prizes for every 600 minutes they spend reading, while supplies last, and pick them up at [any one NPL's 21 locations](#).

For the first 600 minutes, readers aged five and younger receive a rainbow crayon. In a throwback nod to earlier summer reading programs of decades ago, NPL will give readers aged six and older a Summer Reading Challenge enamel pin.

For 1,200 and 1,800 minutes, readers get coupons for free merchandise or services from local Nashville businesses, including:

- Biscuit Love
- Bongo Java
- Chicken Salad Chick
- The Crag
- Curious Capybara
- Dozen
- Fazoli's
- Five Points
- Gabby's
- Jeni's
- Lane Motor Museum
- Centennial Sportsplex
- Mitchell Deli

- Parthenon
- Sweet & Three
- Wave Pool
- We Go
- Wendy's

How to Register and Track Points

To register for the Challenge, [visit the Library's website](#) to participate digitally or use [a paper reading log](#), which can be turned in at any NPL location.

Readers can log their minutes day-by-day, once a week, or whatever is most convenient for them.

What Counts for Points

Reading traditional literature — including print books and e-books — as well audiobooks, graphic novels, manga and magazines counts for points.

But nontraditional forms of literacy qualify, too — like following a cooking recipe, reading comments while scrolling through social media, reviewing emails at work or participating in a game of make believe with children to tell a story.

Participants can also earn points by attending the Library's wide array of programs, including [Story Time](#) and the lauded [Wishing Chair Productions puppet shows](#).

Thank You to Our Sponsors

Summer Reading Challenge 2022 is made possible by Amazon and the [Nashville Public Library Foundation](#).

About Nashville Public Library

With more than 2 million books, movies and music items to choose from — plus great programming and resources to improve early and adult literacy, STEAM, ESL and other key skills — NPL is Nashville's gateway to some of the best resources our city has to offer. Every year, across our 21-location system, thousands of visitors discover how our library lives up to our philosophy: at NPL, books are only half the story.



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