



Summer @the Burnham Memorial Library:



Reading Buddies Program 2014

About the program:

The Reading Buddies Program is designed to give children, “buddies” who have completed kindergarten through third grade, a chance to practice reading during the summer. Students who read over the summer months are better prepared for school in the fall. Reading aloud together helps children to improve their language skills, gain confidence and practice good communication.

The older students, or “mentors” (entering grade 6 and up) experience helping a younger child, hone valuable work skills and are able to give back to the community as volunteers (a beneficial addition to future job and college applications). Buddies and mentors get to know each other, form friendships, and have a rewarding, educational and fun time together.

*** If your 4th or 5th grader would like to do this program but would rather read with a friend his/her own age, consider being part of a pair or trio of mid-level readers known as *RB Friends*. They can sign up together or be matched. They agree to meet each week to read something aloud (we can help them find a book), and at summer’s end, they celebrate along with the Mentors and Buddies.***

Important information:

- ☒ Reading Buddies participants (and parents) contact each other and set up a good time and place to meet; we recommend meeting at the library.
- ☒ Reading Buddies participants read together for ½ hour per week through the summer.
- ☒ If you are taking a vacation during the summer, please let your buddy/mentor/friend know ahead of time.
- ☒ Buddies should read to mentors, but mentors can also take a turn reading to buddies.

Important dates:

- ☒ Participants must register by Tuesday June 17th.
- ☒ All participants and their parents must sign a contract before their first session.
- ☒ Mandatory Mentor Training:

- Mentor Training: Thursday June 19th, 7 p.m.
- Mentors will then make the initial contact with Buddies within 24 hours.
- Buddies and Friends can pick up their match information any time starting on Friday, June 20th.

- ☒ Reading Buddies Program officially starts Friday, June 20th.
- ☒ End-of-Program Pizza Party/certificates & prizes: Thursday, August 21st.

Please call the Burnham Library if you have any questions or concerns during the course of your Reading Buddies experience: 264-5666. Let us know how it's going.