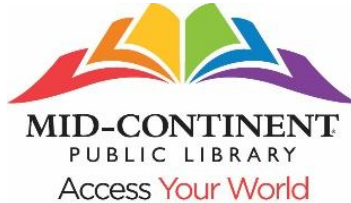


Monday, May 26, 2025

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‘Summer at MCPL’ Returns June 1–August 24

Library’s Annual All-Ages Reading Program Sparks Creativity with ‘Blank Canvas’ Theme

Greater Kansas City, MO – Mid-Continent Public Library will once again offer its annual reading program for all ages, which runs from June 1 to August 24. Just like in previous years, kids, teens, and adults can participate by reading 20 minutes a day and logging their reading online or in a paper log from their local MCPL branch.

“For many kids, the summer months are about soaking up the sun and enjoying time away from school, but that doesn’t mean that learning has to stop altogether, and reading certainly doesn’t have to be boring!” said LynnDee Wathen, MCPL Reading Initiatives & Display Manager. “In fact, our goal is to make the Summer Reading Challenge as fun and interactive as possible, so kids head back to class ready to learn in the fall, and all participants feel that they’ve had a fulfilling and worthwhile experience.”

In addition to keeping kids engaged outside the classroom, another perk to the Library’s summer program are the rewards and prizes that all participants have a chance to earn. Kids and teens (ages 0-19) earn free books for every 20 days they read for 20 minutes. Readers who register for the program and log their progress in the Beanstack app (the online tracking platform) will be eligible for additional prize drawings throughout the summer.

MCPL staff also emphasize that kids can accomplish their daily 20 minutes however works best for them—broken up into smaller time frames or even in non-traditional ways, such as following a recipe as they help in the kitchen, reviewing board game instructions, or reading signs along the road or in the grocery store. Listening to audiobooks also counts, and eAudiobooks can easily be downloaded for free from the Library to a phone or tablet.

Attending Library programs also counts toward participation, and MCPL branches will host a wide variety of programs.

Find a full list of Summer Library Program events, get additional program information, and sign up to participate at mymcpl.org/Summer. Paper logs are also available at MCPL’s 34 branches to sign up and track reading.

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Access Your World

Founded in 1965, [Mid-Continent Public Library](#) is the largest library system in the Kansas City metropolitan area, operating 34 branches and two Library-To-Go locations and serving nearly 850,000 people in Jackson, Clay, and Platte Counties. MCPL is an award-winning library system that strives to enrich citizens and communities through expanding access to innovation, information, ideas, and inspiration. Connect with the Library on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#), and [Instagram](#).