



Tewksbury Public Schools

Tewksbury, MA

*When you motivate your child to read, you also motivate him/her to learn.
Reading is the foundation of a successful education.
Children improve this all-important activity by...
Reading, reading, and reading some more!*

June 2021

Notice to Parents of New Kindergarten-Grade 4 Children

Dear Parents/Guardians:

Welcome to the Tewksbury Public School Summer Reading Program. Reading is a most important and rewarding activity that directly correlates with a student's academic success. Therefore we are asking all children to participate in our program by reading three (3) or more books this summer, including one nonfiction selection. We recommend kindergarten to grade 2 children reading 15 minutes and third and fourth grade 30 minutes a day at least four times a week. Parents of Kindergarten children (or pre-readers), may read the 3 books to their child.

You and your child can select any book; however, one must be a nonfiction selection. The **Nonfiction Book Summary** should be completed for this book selection. The Reading Specialists, with the input of Katrina Lewin at the Tewksbury Public Library, have compiled a list of suggested authors to help children and parents select summer reading books appropriate to their grade level. Below please find some helpful suggestions to assist you in motivating your child to participate:

- Choose books on topics that your child enjoys.
- Children are naturally curious. Allow them to ask lots of questions about the story you are reading.
- Ask your child about the book he/she is reading:
 - What do you think will happen next?
 - What character did you like the most?
 - Did you like the story? Why or why not?
 - Can you tell me one thing that happened in the story?
 - How do you think the author feels about the subject/topic of the story? (for older students)

- Encourage your child to vary his/her selection of books--don't have them read the same type of book each time. There are many great types of books such as realistic fiction, graphic novels, fantasy, nonfiction, poetry, etc...
- Books can be read from your own collection, borrowed from the library, retrieved through an online format (Raz-Kids, Epic, Hoopla, TumbleBooks, KhanAcademy, NewsELA, etc...) or traded among family/friends.

This year we are offering two ways to document a reading log that can be shared with your child's next classroom teacher. We have our Reading Log that is available to print from the Tewksbury Public School website (www.tewksbury.k12.ma.us). On the website you will be able to locate the suggested author/book list for each grade level, the grade level Nonfiction Book Summary form, the Reading Log, and this letter. We encourage the use of the virtual summer reading program through the public library as it involves incentives as a way to keep reading enjoyable and exciting!

In the fall, please submit the following to your child's classroom teacher:

- 1. *The Reading Log: use attached list/paper with 3 or more books listed (including the one nonfiction selection)***
- 2. *Nonfiction Book Summary Form***

Students who meet the summer reading requirements will be recognized by the school in the Fall. Students who consistently read throughout the summer will be better prepared for a successful school year.

Thank you, in advance, for your assistance with our Summer Reading Program.

Happy Summer Reading!

**Information about the Virtual Summer Reading Program from the
Tewksbury Public Library
Information supplied by Katrina(Kat) Lewin,
Tewksbury Children's Librarian**

Keep your child engaged throughout the summer with reading and other fun activities by joining the Tewksbury Public Library's Summer Reading Program! The theme this year is Tails and Tales, and the library will be hosting virtual and outdoor programs for all ages all summer long, including a virtual visit with Wally the Green Monster and a virtual behind-the-scenes tour of the sloth exhibit at Zoo New England! Sign up is free and starts **June 21**. Visit www.tewksburypl.org to sign up and for more information. There are some great raffle prizes, too! Librarians are always available to help choose books and help you get set up for online services.

The library is open! Our programs are all outside or online, but our building is open for browsing! Stop in and pick up some books, movies, and video games, say hello to Hardcover F. Turtle, and **find XAND the alien!** He will be back this summer and will be hiding in a new spot in the library every week. Find him and you can get a ticket for a special weekly raffle prize!

Summer Reading is going to be so much fun! We have an online system called **Beanstack** that can not only track the days you read, but also let you earn badges for doing other activities (go for a walk, draw a chalk picture). You will get a raffle ticket for every day you read, and you can enter those into our prize drawings. We have **51 raffle prizes** this summer, including **a hockey puck signed by Boston Bruin player Matt Grzelcyk!**

The library will also have weekly make-and-take craft projects; you can pick up the supplies and follow along with our instruction videos at home. Be sure to check our YouTube page to see lots of great arts and crafts projects and science experiments that we've posted this year, at [YouTube.com/TewksburyLibrary](https://www.youtube.com/TewksburyLibrary). If you follow us on Facebook, you can also enjoy weekly cooking classes on Monday nights - we will be learning how to make everything from watermelon fire-and-ice salsa to Kit-Kat milkshakes!

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