



Reading Buddies

Little Buddy Information & Application

Reading Buddies is a reading enrichment program for children currently in grades 1-3.

Frequently Asked Questions

Is Reading Buddies right for my child?

Reading Buddies is designed for children currently in grades 1-3 who are reluctant readers or are reading below their grade level.

What is a Reading Buddy?

A Reading Buddy is a teen library volunteer trained to read with a child in a way that helps encourage a love of reading.

What is the purpose of Reading Buddies?

Reading Buddies helps young readers who have challenges learning to read. It creates a mentoring relationship between a teen and a child to encourage the child's reading motivation, confidence and skill.

What does Reading Buddies include?

Each session lasts for one hour. Buddies take turns reading to each other for 30 minutes. The remaining 30 minutes are spent on activities such as art, writing and word games.

When is Reading Buddies held?

Each Little Buddy will be assigned to a teen volunteer for a commitment of one hour per week for seven weeks, **October 26 through December 8, 2015, on either Monday or Tuesday at 4:30 p.m.**

What is Reading Buddies NOT?

Reading Buddies is *not* a tutoring service. Volunteers are not trained to correct reading problems.

How are children placed in Reading Buddies?

Priority is given to children who have not previously participated in the program. We want to include as many families as possible. Please only submit an application for one child per family per session. Participants will be notified no later than Thursday, October 22, of their enrollment in the program.

Do we have to come to all the meetings?

We ask that you and your child commit to attending ALL scheduled meetings. If you must miss a meeting, please notify the Reading Buddies coordinator and your child's Big Buddy as far in advance as possible. Failure to attend scheduled sessions may result in removal from the program.

Can I just drop off my child?

Parents are asked to stay in the library while their child's session is in progress.

What happens during the first session?

The first half hour of the first session is a **required** orientation for parent, child and Big Buddy. Please bring a few books that are just right for your child to read.



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Please fill out this application and return it to Douglas County Libraries in Highlands Ranch (James H. LaRue branch, 9292 Ridgeline Blvd.) by Friday, October 9, 2015. Registration is limited.

If you have questions, please call Jennifer Haberkorn at 303-791-7323, or email her at hireadingbuddies@dclibraries.org.

Child's First and Last Name _____ Age _____ Male Female

Current Grade (2015-2016 School Year) _____ School _____

Parent's Name _____ Home Phone _____

Cell Phone _____ Email Address _____

Please check the day you are interested in having your child meet with a Reading Buddy. If you are available both days, check both and circle your first choice.

Mondays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. _____

Tuesdays, 4:30-5:30 p.m. _____

Has your child been in the Reading Buddies program before? Yes No

To help us match the best Big Buddy to your child, please describe your child's reading challenges:

Does your child have a learning disability? If yes, describe it briefly:

I want my child to have a Big Buddy because: _____

To help your child's Big Buddy select appropriate reading materials, please describe your child's:

Reading Level (AR, DRA, Lexile, etc.): _____

Favorite books/reading topics: _____

For each of the following statements, please mark one box based on where you feel your child falls relative to these characteristics.

SHY ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ OUTGOING

RELUCTANT ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐ ☐

ENJOYS

ABOUT READING

READING

My child's interests and hobbies:

What else would you like us to know about your child? _____

I am aware of the dates, times and requirements of the Reading Buddies program. I agree to help my child participate fully in the program.

Signature of parent _____ Date _____