



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE Tuesday, June 1, 2021

San Diego Public Library's Summer Reading Program Begins June 1 and Combines Reading with Activities

EARN PRIZES FOR EXPLORING NATURE, CULTURE, SCIENCE AND COMMUNITY IN THE PAGES OF A BOOK

SAN DIEGO – Read a book and color your world! Creativity and diversity are at the center of the San Diego Public Library's 2021 Summer Reading Program. This year's theme, "Reading Colors Your World," encourages readers to try new things, explore art and find beauty in diversity.

This year's program kicks off on Tuesday, June 1, and, for the first time, features an activity challenge. Participants can earn prizes by completing a combination of 10 books, 10 hours of reading or activities. The activities include attending a virtual storytime, listening to an audio book or reading a recipe and cooking up a treat. Reading and activities can be mixed and matched to complete the program.

"School-aged children have faced a lot of educational hurdles this year because of COVID-19," said Library Director Misty Jones. "The Summer Reading Program will keep kids engaged and learning throughout the summer and increase their reading skills for the new school year."

The Summer Reading Program offers three age categories: children (ages 0-11), youth (ages 12-17) and adults (ages 18 and up). Upon completion, readers will be eligible for prizes including meal vouchers, museum passes, comic book bundles and puzzle books. Reading and activities can be tracked <u>online</u> or on paper logs available at any San Diego Public Library location offering <u>services</u>.

The <u>SDPL Virtual Hub</u> is the place for content for all ages this summer. New storytimes, book discussions, craft tutorials and more will be posted daily.

The Summer Reading Program runs from June 1 to Aug. 31, 2021. To register online and view lists of activities and recommended books, visit <u>sandiego.gov/summerreading</u>.

Last year, participants in the Summer Reading Program read nearly 200,000 books and logged more than 65,000 hours of reading.

About the San Diego Public Library

With a vision of being the place for opportunity, discovery and inspiration, the San Diego Public Library is a hub for knowledge and lifelong learning. As the largest library system in the region, it serves a population of more than 1.4 million people. Learn about events at the San Diego Central Library @ Joan A Irwin Jacobs Common and 35 community branch libraries, find links to programs and resources or search for materials in the online catalog at www.sandiegolibrary.org.

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