Let's Read Together!

Infuse Your Summer Program With Literacy

A Community Call to Action
To All Community Members!

Did you know that only about half of the children in our communities are reading proficiently by third grade? Hundreds of children in Dubuque County are not meeting this critical milestone, which is a key predictor of high school graduation. Our children are in a crisis, and we are asking the entire community to participate and work together to increase literacy in our community. Incorporating fun literacy activities into any program is easy and can make a big impact!

Daily reading is extremely important in helping children maintain literacy proficiency over the summer. There are many creative ways to engage children in a program setting, in the community or at home about the books they are reading. These activities make reading fun for the child and also more likely they will retain what they are learning.

The following document contains easy and innovative ways to unleash the full teaching and learning potential of any book. These creative ideas and projects were provided by the Carnegie-Stout Public Library. We hope you enjoy doing them with your kids.

If you would like more information or guidance, please reach out to me directly.

Thank you!

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Creative ideas to increase literacy with any book!

1. Create a comic book from your book
2. Make a bookmark advertising your book
3. Create a word search
4. Create a crossword puzzle
5. Create a collage using old magazines
6. Create a puppet show from your book
7. Draw your favorite from the book
8. Create a book talk
9. Write a review
10. Design a new cover
11. Create a scavenger hunt based on your book
12. Write an alternate ending
13. Create a video
14. Create masks to represent the characters in the book
15. Design a cupcake based on your book
16. Write a poem
17. What would you do, say, think if you "traveled" into the story you are reading?
18. Instead of traveling into the book, write a scene or story in which the character(s) travel out of the book into today.
19. Write a biography of one of the characters who most interests you.
20. Create a board game based on your book
21. Write a song/ballad about the story, a character, or an event in the book.
22. Read aloud your book to a friend or sibling
23. Create a puppet
24. Create a diorama
25. Write trivia questions from the book to hold a book discussion
26. Create a Breaking News newspaper story based on your book
27. Design boots, hat or other item of clothing that a character in the book would wear.
28. Create a flannel board to recreate the story
29. Venn diagram
31. Create a timeline that includes both the events in the novel and historical information of the time. Try using Post-Its on a whiteboard or butcher paper!
32. Translate chapters into storyboards and cartoons; draw the most important scene in the chapter and explain its importance and action.
33. Be interviewed about your book and interview someone else about their book.