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# NEWS RELEASE

## Durango Public Library's Summer Reading programs begin June 8

**Durango, CO:** Durango Public Library's Summer Reading programs for children, teens and adults will run from June 8 through July 31. Register online starting Tuesday, June 8 at [Durangogov.org/Library](http://Durangogov.org/Library) or in person at the library.

The program for children encourages kids to read, or be read to, throughout the summer. Infants through elementary school-age children are eligible to participate. Reading with family members or caregivers builds pre-reading skills in young children, and studies show that older children who read during the summer go back to school with improved skills.

"Summer reading is critical to maintaining and growing reading skills, which sets children up for success when they return to school in the fall," Youth Services Supervisor, Callie Blackmer said. "Reading over the summer is important, and we can help make it fun and exciting too."

Children who log ten hours or 600 minutes of reading earn a free book, a lanyard, a day pass to the Durango Community Recreation Center, a chance to win one of two \$50 gift cards from Maria's Bookshop and a chance to win a grand prize bag. Each additional ten hours of reading earn them another entry in the grand prize drawing. Active participants in the program are eligible for weekly prize drawings. The program also includes fun free events in June and July.

Middle and high school students can read and win too. Teens who log twenty hours of reading will earn a free book, sunglasses, a day pass to the Recreation Center, a chance to win one of two \$50 Maria's Bookshop gift cards and a chance to win a grand prize bag. Each additional twenty hours of reading earns them another chance to win the grand prize. Active participants in the program will be eligible for weekly prize drawings.

Summer reading isn't just for kids! Adults 17 and older are invited to enter each book they read this summer for entry in the adult weekly prize drawing.

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“Adults also benefit from setting reading goals, and who doesn’t love a chance to win fun prizes?” Adult Services Supervisor Daisy Grice said. “Also, an essential element of supporting a love for reading in children is for them to see this activity modeled by the grown-ups in their lives.”

Summer Reading programs are made possible by the generous support of Friends of the Durango Public Library. This year’s programs are also supported by Durango Parks and Recreation and Maria’s Bookshop. All Durango Public Library programs are free and open to the public. Visit [Durangogov.org/Library](http://Durangogov.org/Library) for program details and to register or call (970) 375-3380 for more information.

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