

FAQ for Summer 2017

Files linked to this page may require Adobe Acrobat Reader, click [HERE to download](#).

Registration

| Questions: | Answers: |
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| Is the Summer Reading Program free? | Yes. |
| What are the grade/age levels for registration in the general reading program? | <p>Toddler-Read-To-Me: 6 months-36 months. Easy Reader: Preschool(37 months)-Grade 2. Youth: Grades 3-5 Teens: Grades 6-12 Adults: 18 years and up</p> |
| When does registration open? | June 6, 10 am |
| When does registration close? | <p>Toddler-Gr.2: August 1, 10:59 pm Gr.3-12: August 7, 10:59 pm Adults: August 19, 5 pm</p> |
| How do I register? | From our homepage (www.whitehallpl.org), scroll down to "Regular Monthly Programming." Click "Register" for your child's age group. |
| Are library cards required to register? | No. |
| Do I register using the new grade I'm going into or the old one? | Please give the new grade your child will be entering in this fall, the 2017-18 school year. During spring in 2018, posters will be hung up in several local schools with names and achievements reached by those registered in grades K-8. |
| Why is it so important to have the correct grade and school listed for my child(ren)? | Each school will receive posters or letters during spring of 2018 saluting the involvement of children who participated last summer. If nothing is logged online for your child, the poster will note "Participation without online entries," listing your child's name underneath that phrase. So remember to log in your child's books because they should have recognition for their efforts. |
| What does the program require to register Toddlers to Grade 2? | You need to make up a username and password . Pick any username (such as your child's name) and any password (4 digit number) you will remember. For those who have their own library card, we ask you to use it for checking out books not for registering. |
| What does the program require to register Grades 3-12? | You need to create an appropriate username and password as well as providing additional required contact information. Pick any username (such as your name) and a 4 digit only password that you will remember. For those who have their own library card, we ask you to use it for checking out books not for registering. |
| How can I register & log in for the general reading program if I cannot get to the library? | If you are allowed to use the internet (get permission first!), you can register, read books and log them online from home using your computer. By going to www.whitehallpl.org (our homepage), you can scroll down to Summer Reading Registration to sign up in your grade group by you creating a username & password. On the right |

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| | hand side of the homepage you can access Tumblebooks, Overdrive and other online reading resources. Any questions, call the library! |
| Those who live in a School District that doesn't have a Public library - can your child participate? | Persons from other localities without a public library are welcome here; however each participating family member will need a Non-Resident library card. Each of your children can utilize username & PIN. (Please note: The non-resident fee is charged per family and allows each family member to have their own card). |
| If a child is visiting from out-of-state, may he or she participate? | Yes, see Mrs. Santaliz. |
| My mom feels I should read daily and not receive a prize for doing it. Why should I register for the summer reading program? | Mom is trying to get you to view reading as its own reward, which you can use for entertainment or to better yourself! Let mom know that enrolling in our SRP demonstrates support for this library and your reading efforts. The State of PA requires public libraries to submit statistics that reflect participation (qualitative and quantitative) programming throughout the summer and all year long. Why not earn incentive prizes if you will be reading anyway? We need your support! We work hard all year long at our goal for educational quality through daily reading. During summer our participation numbers can reflect that. Thank you for registering for Summer Reading! |

Logging

| Questions: | Answers: |
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| When does logging open? | June 6, 10 am |
| When does logging close? | <u>Toddler-Gr.2:</u> August 1, 11:59pm <u>Gr.3-12:</u> August 7, 11:59pm <u>Adults:</u> August 19, 5pm |
| What do I do if I forget my username or PIN? | Using the e-mail address you entered during registration will allow you to retrieve forgotten log in information. |
| Can I use titles I read/heard/watched last year? | No. The reading program begins June 6 and allows only titles read/heard/watched between June 1 and August 1, 2017 for Toddler to Grade 2 and August 7 for Grades 3-12. Build a better world of your own by challenging yourself and selecting never before read books. There are many new books published in 2016 & 2017 waiting for you to experience or to proceed with books from series you have already found enjoyable. |
| Do I have to keep track of the number of minutes I read this year? | No, this year you can enjoy selecting books preferably from this library without concern for minutes. You will need to note the title of each book, author's name and pages you have read. |
| Are children expected to read at a certain level? | No. We hope you will attempt to read books the next level up from where you are at presently. The goal is to read throughout the summer and you may be comfortable at your current reading level. However, the more you read you may get comfortable when selecting new books allowing you to excel into the next reading level. Please e-mail or call Mrs. Santaliz to discuss placement. |

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| Do honor course books or school booklists count for logging? (For Grades 2-12) | Yes. You may include required school booklists or reading for summer honor classes, provided they were read after June 1. To be sure this library can accommodate selection from a booklist, please share a copy of your booklist with Mrs. Santaliz. |
| Is there a list indicating Caldecott and Newbery books & if so, where? | In the children’s section on the wall by the community room door and our “Little Books” is a list of 2017 winners and honor books. For additional years of Caldecott & Newbery winners & honor books look under “ Book Lists & Newsletters ” |
| Do books on CD, Tumblebooks, Tumblereadables, Audio Cloud, Overdrive, “Book Flix” through Power Library, or DVD/videos using subtitles with the volume off count? | Yes. Upon finishing a book listened to through CD, online Tumblebooks, Tumblereadables, Audio Cloud, Overdrive, “Book Flix” through Power Library, if you don’t know the number of pages then find sources (such as the library, Amazon, the item cover, etc.) that indicate the number of pages in the book you read. Watching DVD or videos using subtitles with the volume off will only count if you let it benefit you. (Watching a movie with the subtitles on and the sound off can help you learn to read faster as is necessary when reading signs from a moving vehicle. Next time you are in a car see how quickly you can read the passing signs, then strengthen your ability to read fast by continuing to watch videos using subtitles.) |
| Can I log the same book more than once? | Yes, especially for younger children (Toddlers to Grade 2). We encourage you to excite your children to learn the joys of reading. Sharing their favorite book many times contributes to their development. Each book read may be logged in as often as read. |
| Do I need to finish the book before logging in my pages? | No. If you don’t find the book a good read, log in the title, author & the number of pages you completed even if you read only a few pages or the entire book. |
| Can I read my books from home? | Any book or titles within the library’s collection are preferred selections including digital media from our homepage. Books you own are allowed. |
| If I read a book to someone else, may I count that book? | Yes, books read to another person may be counted in your reading log. |
| Why are we counting books <u>AND</u> pages? | The State of PA requires libraries to record and submit statistics during each year of summer reading. Their requirement has changed from minutes to books & pages. Most kids wanted to enjoy what they read rather than paying attention to the amount of time reading. Kids also like to see in numbers how much they accomplished. |
| Can I cut and paste into the logging website? | Yes, you may cut and paste entries from other software. |

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| <p>To keep track of finished reading, must I use online log-in only or is there a paper copy reading record I can use?</p> | <p>Logging online is preferred; however, we will provide paper reading logs for those participants who wish to use a paper reading record. Extra reading logs will be available at the front desk. If you plan to use the paper log, please allow library staff (as front desk time permits) to sign up you or your child on our online software. If additional help is needed with online entries, if requested & available give Mrs. Santaliz a copy of your log to have a volunteer to enter your information into the summer reading software. We ask you to PLEASE visit the library & use our computers to log in your own record of books and pages read. Library staff or volunteers may (IF REQUESTED & AVAILABLE) enter your information online for you, especially if you are a novice computer user, do not own a pc, or do not have internet service.</p> |
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Prizes

| Questions: | Answers: |
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| <p>Are there any restrictions at Whitehall Township Public Library for patrons who reside in other library localities?</p> | <p>Yes, the County District Library states that only Whitehall-Coplay residents can receive our library’s showcase & contest prizes. Patrons from other library localities can register for our general reading program but are not eligible for showcase or contest prizes. They can receive earned incentive prizes of food coupons and/or free book coupons when indicated by computer acknowledgement or reaching an incentive level calculated on your paper log.</p> |
| <p>What is the difference between a showcase prize and an incentive prize?</p> | <p>Showcase prizes are on display and are randomly selected on Finale Day. Incentive prizes are what you can receive when you reached a reading level. Incentives prizes offered are food coupons and book coupons. Whitehall Coplay school district residents only can select drawing tickets as incentive prizes.</p> |
| <p>What reading goals must be reached to be awarded an incentive prize?</p> | <p>Toddlers: 25 books. Reading records stay in the library. Every Tuesday, we add stickers to toddler reading records from paper logs submitted or online entries. You must have read to your child a minimum of 25 books within the duration the program in order to meet our reading goal for an award bag given on Finale Day. The only incentives given for toddlers throughout the program are stickers on your child’s record for books read and logged online or on paper. Also, your time, attention & love are reading rewards! PK-Gr.2: 25 books. For these ages, you must read a minimum of 25 books within the duration the program to your child in order to meet our goal for an award bag given on Finale Day. When entries are logged & upon reaching each of these incentive levels of: 5, 10, 20, 30, 40, 50, 60, 70, 80, 90, & 100 books read to your child, they will be able to receive an incentive prize at the front desk after either computer acknowledgement or reaching incentive levels calculated on their paper log. Gr.3-12: 100, 200, 300, 400, 600, 900, 1200, 1500, 2000, 2500, 3000, 3500, 4000, 5000, & 6000 pages read earns incentive prizes after either computer acknowledgement or reaching incentive levels calculated on their paper log. For pages over 6000, you will not receive online acknowledgement of an incentive prize earned. However, we will offer free book coupons only either by indication online of increased page totals or on paper logs.</p> |

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| When can I redeem my earned incentive prizes? | Incentive prizes will be available starting June 13. You may collect them after computer acknowledgement or reaching incentive levels calculated on your paper. |
| What are the incentive prizes for 2017? | There are food coupons from various merchants & library book coupons redeemable from our special book cart. (Bundled prize books are redeemed as first come, first awarded. Any book bundled are grouped as one book for redemption unless otherwise noted. These bundles cannot be broken into individual books.) Whitehall residents may also choose to get drawing tickets for our showcase prizes. |
| How will incentive prizes be distributed this year? | Reaching and/or exceeding our reading levels earn incentive prizes. These incentives can be redeemed at the front desk. Each age group will have incentives appropriate to their age. You will have limited time to select prizes, depending on how busy the desk is. Staff reserves the right to ask you to wait while they help other patrons or until the front desk is no longer busy. |
| Why do toddlers not receive incentive prizes? | Toddlers experience joy when you as their parents read to them, which is in itself a prize. Every child who gets stories read to them feels a positive emotional closeness that develops them into well rounded readers, citizens or even leaders! Also, at the end of our program, each registered child Toddler to Grade 2 with online log entries will receive a certificate in a theme bag with a book, their reading tally sheet, and some treat. |
| How are showcase prizes awarded? | Showcase prizes are awarded on Finale Day by drawing tickets, these tickets may be selected at each reached incentive prize level. Kids, make sure you choose wisely the prize you really want. Those who earn and select many drawing tickets may want a ticket in every prize slot. Only one showcase prize per person! Remember the showcase prizes are awarded by random drawing. Please consider upon reaching the next incentive level whether you want a drawing ticket, a food coupon or a free book coupon. |
| Must I be present to win prizes at Finale Day? | Yes. You must be present to win a prize unless you notify the library that you will be away on Finale Day. Parents & kids who will be away can pick up a proxy-authorization form from the front desk. If you secure a friend to “be in place of” your child(ren) and return the indicated portion of the form back to Mrs. Santaliz before Finale Day, your child will not miss out. |

Contests

| Questions: | Answers: |
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| Must I register in the general program to participate in contests? | Yes. |
| Are contests open to all? | Contests are open to those in the indicated age groups. Also, you must be a Whitehall resident to participate in contest prizes awarded on Finale Day. |
| What is “Dad Watch”? | The raffle is called, “Hey Dad, you’ve been spotted with your kids at the library!” When dads visit the library with their child(ren) and |

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| | staff spot them, they are encouraged to fill out a raffle slip for a chance to win a prize on Finale Day for being a male reading role model in their family. You are awesome, Dad! |
| What is “Mom, My Reading Architect”? | Thank you Moms for bringing your children to the library. We want all moms who have their children enrolled in our program to fill out a MOM raffle form. On Finale Day, the library will give some moms a treat through a random drawing. You are amazing, Mom! |

Events

| Questions: | Answers: |
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| Must I be registered in the general reading program to participate in events? | Not for most events. While we want you to be registered in the general reading program, events are open to all with the exception of age-specific programs. Toddler Time story time does require registration in the general reading program and parent attendance. |
| Are there programs every day? | Check the entire homepage for the most up-to-date postings as well as the calendar of events by clicking Programs & Events on our home page or visiting the library to pick up a monthly calendar. We hope you are reading every day! |
| What is the difference between “Toddler Read-to-Me” and “Toddler Time”? | <u>Toddler Read-to-Me:</u> (Ages 6-36 months) The general reading program where parents or others read to the child at home or during library story times. Books read/heard are to be logged in online using a username and a 4 digit pin number. <u>Toddler Time:</u> (Ages 18-36 months) The child must be at the library for story time and be registered in the Toddler Read-To-Me to participate. An adult must accompany the child during story time. |
| What is “Library Bingo?” | Open to all kids using candies as markers; random prizes are available for winners to select. |
| What is “Family Story Time & Craft?” | Four Wednesdays in July, Mrs. Santaliz & Ms. Case will read stories and complete an appropriate craft after the reading. Also, local community helpers may participate presenting their programs. Books read during story time can be used towards your reading log in goals. |
| Tell me about the children's book sale. | <u>Children’s Book Sale:</u> There will be NO children’s book sale this August. Instead we will incorporate children’s books and children related items into the adult book sale in November. <u>Library Book Sale:</u> In our community room November 17, 9:30 am-5 pm & November 18, 9:30 am-3 pm. On November 18, there will be a \$5 per bag sale from Noon-3. In preparation for the sale, we will accept donations of adult and children’s books and coloring books that are gently used and free of smells. |

Other

| Questions: | Answers: |
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| Can I give my suggestions? | Yes, we encourage all library patrons to give us their opinions on what might work better. A suggestion box and slips are provided for your convenience. |
| How are library cards issued? | <p>Adults (18 years+): Bring in a photo ID and proof of your current address. If you do not live in Whitehall, you will also need to bring in a card from your home library. (If you do not know what your home library is, a staff member can help you find it.)</p> <p>Children (Gr.1-17 years): You will need a parent or other responsible party to sign your registration card after he/she has his own card.</p> |
| Is there a charge to replace a lost or expired library card? | Yes. The library charges \$2.00 to replace a lost library card. There is no fee charged to update your expired card. We will renew your current card with a photo ID of your parent or your High School ID. |
| Does the library provide tutoring, ESL classes, or reading instruction for non-readers? | No. However we have story times and EZ Reader collections. |
| How do I join Teen Advisory Board (TAB)? | If you will be going to Grades 7-12 for the upcoming academic year, see Mrs. Santaliz. To join, you must have a current library card in good standing. |
| How do I show my classroom teacher that I participated over the summer? | Students may elect to print a copy of the reading log throughout or at the end of the program. They may show this log to their teacher as proof of participation. |
| What is the “summer slide” syndrome? | <p>According to Johns Hopkins University, students suffer learning loss during the summer months - a <i>syndrome</i> known as “the <i>summer slide</i>”. Experts agree that children who read during the summer gain reading skills, while those who do not often slide backward.</p> <p>http://www.education.com/reference/article/Ref_Keeping_Kids_Off/ https://www.tc.columbia.edu/articles/2004/june/reading-should-be-fun-damental/ http://www.brainbalancecenters.com/blog/2014/05/prevent-summer-slide-reading/</p> |
| Is there an informational session available for additional details? | No, please read all FAQs and then e-mail or call Mrs. Santaliz for answers to specific questions for all ages. |
| I have questions not addressed in this FAQ, what should I do? | Please write down those questions you want an answer, then ask for Mrs. Santaliz to address your questions. 610-432-4339 x209 or Santaliz.L@whitehallpl.org |
| Why we want you to be a part of our summer reading program. | The Pennsylvania Department of Education relies on libraries to fill the educational gap not structurally met during the summer months when schools are closed. The Bureau of Library Development requires libraries to provide data to them each September which includes the total number of participants enrolled, books and pages read, along with statistic of qualitative and quantitative events and people attending the events in each library in Pennsylvania. |