San Mateo Public Library

Summer Learning Challenge

For young people, summer can be a time filled with wonder and discovery. Unfortunately, students can also suffer learning losses during the long break from school, and reading skills are particularly affected. The Summer Learning Challenge (June 1-August 31, 2017) addresses this issue by offering programs that support young people's reading skills and love of literacy. Outreach includes collaboration with local school districts, particularly those serving at-risk youth (who are most keenly affected by summer reading loss). Similar programs for teens and adults are also offered.



Students are encouraged to keep a record of all the books they read during the summer. All participants receive a free age-appropriate book to get them started when they register for the program. As the summer progresses, Library staff continues to make book suggestions and offer encouragement.

Drawings for special prizes are held at the end of the summer, and each child who completes the program receives another free book.

In 2016, with the support of our generous funders, the Summer Learning Challenge engaged 4,025 children, 784 teens, and 75 adults. Other free activities—as well as the cool, comfortable building itself—also make the Library a popular warm-weather destination for families. Last year, 231 events were offered and attended by over 12,000 Library visitors!

"This summer, San Mateo Public Library will be a special destination of learning (and fun!) for children and teens."

-Ben Ocón, City Librarian

In 2017, activities include:
Tween Scavenger Hunt (June 1- July 8)
KickOff Event (June 15)
The Caterpillar Puppet Show (June 27)
Uncle Jer's Bee Show (July 6)
The Xtreme Science Magic Show (July 18)
KittyCon (July 29)

and much more. Please join us!

The Summer Learning Challenge is supported in part by







