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Get ready to read year round!

The Burleson Public Library is announcing the launch of Burleson Reads, a yearlong reading program! The Library will provide parents the option of tracking their children's reading throughout the school year and earn incentives for doing so. With the successful launch of the new online participation program during Summer Reading Club, the Burleson Reads program captures the convenience and fun of participation . . . making it summer reading all year long.

Marc Marchand, director of library services for the City, says that the Burleson Reads program will encourage children to stay on top of their reading and improve school performance.

"There is an often cited study that demonstrates the correlation between reading and vocabulary development," Marchand said. "An infographic about the study was created, and it shows that a student who reads just 20 minutes per day will read an estimated 1.8 million words in a school year. A child that reads an average of five minutes per day will only read about 282,000 words. By the end of 6th grade, the first student will have read an equivalent of 60 whole school days while the second student only 12 school days. It is easy to see which student is likely to have a better vocabulary and better success in school."

The Library's program allows parents and children to track their reading using a cell phone or computer, making participation easy and convenient. The goal is to have the children read 4,500 minutes by the end of the school year, which is about 15 minutes per day. If a child reads 450 minutes each month, they earn a trip to the Library's treasure chest to pick out a prize.

"Early childhood literacy is important to the mission of the Library," Sara Miller, public services supervisor for the Library said. "After the successful rollout of the new Summer Reading Club program, along with the glowing responses from parents, we knew this was a winning program that could have a lasting impact on the academic success of the children in our community."

But, children aren't the only ones who can enjoy the program. Adults and teens are also included, but, unlike the children's incentives, adults and teens will be eligible for monthly prize drawings just for participating.

Registration is ongoing, available online, and will run now through May 31, 2015.

For more information, please contact the Burleson Public Library at 817-426-9210 or visit the Library online at www.burlesonlibrary.com. The library is located at 248 S.W. Johnson Ave.