

Read-A-Thon FAQs

Thank you for your interest in helping your child with our Read-A-Thon celebrating Read Across America and Dr. Seuss' birthday! We hope this guide will answer any questions you may have.

How do we participate?

Ask family and friends if they would like to sponsor your child for their read-a-thon. People can either pledge a flat donation, or a per-minute amount. They can even set a maximum amount. You can download the pledge form at www.patten.lib.me.us/readathon/pledgesheet. We also have pledge packets at the library – you can swing by any time that we're open to pick one up. They are kept in the bin with Grab-n-Go crafts. Lastly, you can set up a Facebook Fundraiser and collect donations without needing to handle any checks or money.

Can we raise money online?

Yes! We're excited to use Facebook Fundraising tools to support our Read-A-Thon. Visit <https://www.facebook.com/fund/PattenFree/> to get started. Name your fundraiser "Read-A-Thon" or after your child (Oscar's Read-A-Thon). Personalize your message so that friends and family know what they're supporting. For example, "Please support Oscar's read-a-thon efforts. He's hoping to read 30 minutes a day between February 28 and March 6. That goal represents a 10 minute increase to his daily homework goal. He's hoping to raise \$350 so he can get a Ninja Slackline for our backyard. The read-a-thon supports our local library, which means so much to our community. Thanks for your support!" As a bonus, if you have photos of your child in the library, include it as your cover photo! 100% of each donation comes directly to us at Patten Free Library. No money changes hands, and no fees are assessed from any donations. This is a great way to get friends and family from afar to support the Read-A-Thon!

Can we log our reading online?

Yes! You can keep track of your minutes on Beanstack. Visit <https://patten.beanstack.org/reader365> to get started.

How and when will we receive prizes?

If you raise \$50 or less, you can pick up prizes at the library. Stay tuned for details on a prize day and alternate ways to get your prize. If you raised \$100 or more, we will mail you an Amazon gift card the week of March 22.

Does reading to my child count towards their goal? How about audio-books?

We believe that all reading is nourishing reading for your child. Read alouds, audiobooks, sibling's reading to one another – it all counts to us. We hope you enjoy participating together!

Can I participate as an adult?

Absolutely! There are no age limits to this program, though we have geared many of our prizes to the interests of a younger audience.

Can my children combine their pledges and/or reading minutes?

We do not wish to have any barriers to participation. If it's easier for you to combine pledges and track minutes collectively, we support that. Prizes will be awarded based on the total amount raised.

Is there a limit to how much I can earn?

No – the more you raise, the more you earn! You will earn \$10 for every increment of \$50. \$750 in raised funds would result in a \$150 Amazon gift card; \$1000 raised would result in \$200 Amazon gift card, etc.