



PAY IT FORWARD

Your quest is to find something you can do for someone else to pass on a little kindness. You cannot do something that benefits yourself, like clean your room. I mean come on, some of your mom's would probably faint if you cleaned your room, but it's **your** room; that doesn't count.

So **pay it forward** for a friend, a family member, a teacher, etc. Write an encouraging note, make cookies for a neighbor, do something nice you don't normally do. Have fun!!

Then, "blog" your comment onto your Summer Reading Program webpage that includes what you did, who you did it for, and what that person's reaction was. Write at least three sentences!

Tip: Blogging is a great way for students to learn to reflect about topics and to have dialogue with other students by replying to blog postings. And, kids need to start establishing a positive digital impression of themselves. Without question, it will be the norm for these students to be Googled when they begin to look for jobs — even if it's part time. As young as they are, they need to cultivate their personal brand, and they can do this by posting about what they're involved in at the library or school, learning in their communities, or other activities they enjoy.



COLOR CHANGING UV BEADS QUEST

WHAT TO DO:

Thread a few beads onto a piece of elastic to make a bracelet. Remember to stay away from any door or windows where ultra-violet light could come into the room. When you're finished, cover the bracelet with your hand and walk outside into the sunlight. Don't take your eyes off the beads as you expose them to sunlight. Like magic the beads change from white to a rainbow of colors.

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The UV Beads contain different pigments that change color when exposed to ultraviolet light from any source including the sun. The beads are all white in visible light. In UV light, depending on the pigment added to each bead, you will see different colors. Each bead will change color about 50,000 times before the pigment will no longer respond to UV light. The term "light" is often used as a generic word to describe many different forms of light such as incandescent light, fluorescent light, or sunlight, for instance. However, not all light is made up of the same energy.

TRY THIS AT HOME:

Take your bracelet off (while the beads are white) and put it in a clear zipper-lock bag. Get your bottle of sunscreen out and try to coat as much of the zipper-lock bag as you can and then take the bag outside. You'll be able to tell immediately if your sunscreen is doing its job!

Use your bracelet to remind your friends and family to sunscreen up!



GOOGLE TRANSLATE QUEST

Find **Google Translate** on the computer, then use it to translate the first line of the book you're reading into another language.

Share your new "language" in this notebook for others to "guess" which book you're reading!

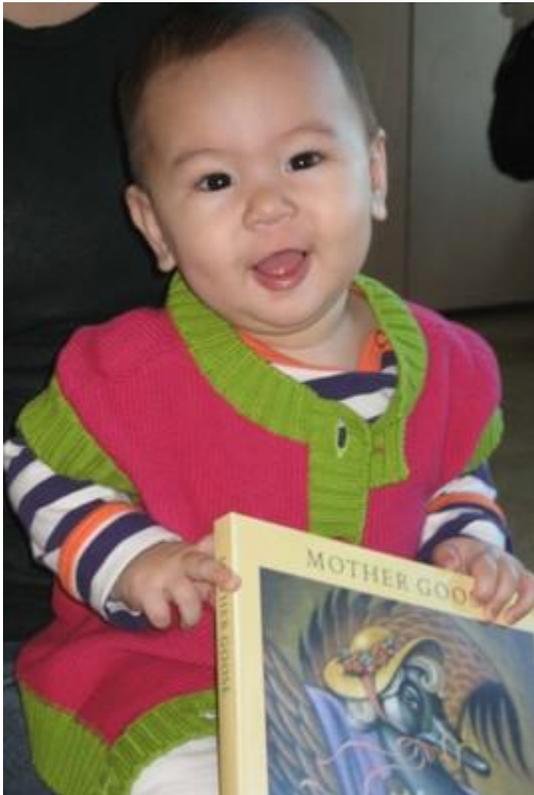
Tip: Whatever you think about languages, it's a simple fact that we need to learn them. We speak English, which is great, but we can't stop there. Did you know lots of words we use have been "borrowed" from other languages? Looking at words in other languages can help us interpret our own word heritage!



Summer Reading

AT NEW YORK LIBRARIES

Why share books with your baby?



Check out these baby board books courtesy of the Schenectady County Public Library, Quaker Street/Duanesburg Branch. Be sure to visit our library with your baby for Storytime!

- Babies love to hear your voice and books give you something to talk about.
- The language in books for children is often rhythmic, simple and elegant.
- The repetition of a good story gives children the chance to hear language over and over.
- Board books often have photographs of babies, or bold colors or strong outlines in their illustrations – all the visual elements babies love.
- Literacy begins with spoken language, and talking, reading and singing makes learning enjoyable.
- Children's books are fun!



How many Starlight Mints are in the jar??

Do you know how many Starlight Mints are in the jar?

How would you estimate?

Here's the scientific method to figuring it out:

1. Figure out the size of the starlight mint.

(Hint: You could google the volume of a starlight mint)

2. Figure out the size of the jar.
3. How much volume do starlight mints really occupy?

(You could find a study on Google to help you do this:

<http://www.yenra.com/particle-packing/>)

Figure it out and put your estimate in!

Winner takes All!

Tip: Estimating is an important part of mathematics and a very handy tool for everyday life. Create opportunities whenever you can to practice estimating amounts of money, lengths of time, distances, and many other physical quantities.



Photo Quest

Take a picture of yourself holding your favorite book this summer and email it to the Children's Library to post with "Look Who's Reading Our Books" Display.



(I'm sure it's **The Hunger Games!**)

Tip: Create opportunities so kids can take pride in their work! It also allows them the opportunity to learn new digital skills.



Summer Reading

AT NEW YORK LIBRARIES

Fairy Quest

Make your own Fairy House when you're on a personal quest this summer!

At the beach? Design a house with sand, shells, and feathers.

Camping? What treasures can you find in the woods or meadows to help with your fairy house.

Staying home? What treasures can you find in your neighborhood to help design a fairy house?

Then, email the library a picture and describe the fairy(s) that live in this dwelling!



Tip: Imagination is important because it is the very thing that allows humans to create. It is what first happens when an architect thinks of a design for a building, it is the first step in the process of writing a book, it is also the first step in the strategies that teachers use to reach their students. Imagination is the root of every man made thing you see. Someone first had to think up, visualize, or 'imagine' the idea before they could ever build, construct, write, paint or manufacture it.

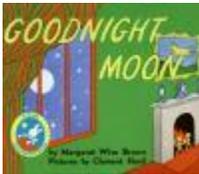


Summer Reading

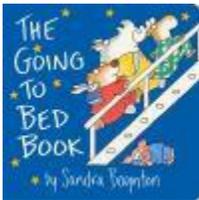
AT NEW YORK LIBRARIES

Dream Big! READ Quest

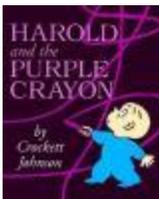
Help put this bear to sleep, and read him one of these berry, good bedtime stories!



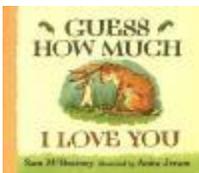
Goodnight Moon by Margaret Wise Brown



The Going to Bed Book by Sandra Boynton



Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson



Guess How Much I Love You by Sam McBratney

Tip: Reading aloud improves a child's reading skills.



Watch the Movie!

Take a look at **The Fantastic Flying Books of Mr. Morris Lessmore!**

This movie, by author William Joyce, won Best Animated Short Film Award at the **2012 Academy Awards.**

Then, make your own Fantastic Flying Book!

Tip: Brain research confirms that Visual Arts education strengthens student problem-solving and critical thinking skills, adding to overall academic achievement, school success, and preparation for the work world. As more and more information and entertainment is acquired through non-print media (such as television, movies and the internet), the ability to think critically and visually about the images presented becomes a crucial skill.



Where the Wild Things Are Quest

**Use the puppets and script to create your own
*Wild Things Puppet Show!***

Or, create your own Wild Things show.

Tip: Through puppet playing, children have the opportunity to learn about quotation marks, read with greater voice inflection, and understand story structure, all help them to develop their reading skills.



Find out when the town where you live was founded Quest.

How many different ways could a child find this out?

Look up on Wikipedia

IM, telephone, or visit a Librarian

Go to the town hall and find out

Read on a town marker sign

Look in an atlas or a local history book.