

How We Spent our Summer Vacation

Everyone in the Children's Department usually breathes a big sigh of relief on July 31. Yes, Summer Reading Club is over for another year. It's time to sit back and think about all the things that turned out great and all the things that went, well... not so great. The best news is that over 2,000 kids came to the library this summer to read!

They came to check out books to read in the backyard, the bathtub and in the car. They were reading after soccer practice, swimming at the pool and all those other great things kids do in the summer. Some were reading just because Mom said they had to, and some were reading just because they love doing it. The one thing all these kids have in common is that they started school last month as better students for having included the library in their summer schedules.

Columbus is a great town for kids. Plain and simple. Every year when my co-workers and I begin working on planning for the summer reading club, I am always amazed by the great response I get from the community. I call lots of area merchants and ask them to donate hundreds of dollars worth of merchandise that we will then give to kids for reading books, and you know what most of them said? They said just let me know what you need. How amazing is that? Columbus Parks and Recreation Department, which provides great programs all summer long to help keep our kids healthy, pitched in and gave us free passes for Donner Pool. Of course, I can't forget about the Library Associates, our friends that fund all of the fun programs we are able to offer all summer long.

I want to say a big thank you to all the parents who brought your kids to the library this summer. I know that often it was loud and crazy and crowded and I thank you for your patience and your good humor. Don't forget that even though kids are busy now with homework and after school activities, we can still be the place to go to for that one book you need for a report, an AR test or if you just NEED the latest issue of Spiderman Adventures.

By the way, Story Times are back! Come have some fun listening to stories, doing crafts, and maybe just a wee bit of puppet craziness. Give us a call at 812-379-1288 to register, and we will fill you in on available times.

Winter Reading Club starts in January so once again we will be busy planning, calling and mustering the resources of the community and our friends to help us once again. Bring it on...

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