



Volunteer Opportunity

Summer Reading Challenge Assistant

Would you like to gain experience of working with young people and help them to have fun and improve their reading skills?

Where?

Needed at all libraries across York, and selected external promotional events

What will I be doing?

Every summer holiday the library service offers The Summer Reading Challenge for children. This invites children to read 6 books over the long summer holiday, receive small incentive prizes with each book they read, and a medal and certificate when they complete the challenge.

You will be encouraging children, their parents and carers to step into a wonderful world of stories and information and to help them learn to love reading for pleasure. You will help library staff to promote, deliver and administer the challenge, either in libraries or at outside promotional events.

If you enjoy this there is the opportunity to continue volunteering in our libraries, developing your skills further. We have a range of other volunteer opportunities, including Chatterbooks Volunteer, Story and Rhyme time Volunteer, Children's Library Shelver, as well as other volunteer roles. For more information talk to a member of library staff or see our website.

How will I be helping?

Research has shown that the Summer Reading Challenge can help children to maintain their reading levels over the summer holiday, as well as helping them develop their confidence and self-esteem. By helping us to deliver the challenge you will be helping children to develop a love of reading, and have fun along the way, as you will

enable children to get more out of the challenge and help more of them to complete and receive rewards and recognition.

Tasks

- Promoting the challenge and other related activities, either in libraries or at outside promotional events
- Chatting to children about what they've been reading
- Helping children choose books
- Registering and updating children's records on the Summer Reading Challenge database
- Helping to create Summer Reading Challenge displays
- Giving out relevant incentive prizes
- Helping children have fun using the Summer Reading Challenge activities website and activity sheets
- Assisting at Summer Reading Challenge events in libraries
- Gathering feedback from children and parents/carers
- Helping with other related children's library activities

What will I learn and what skills do I need?

You will receive the following training:

- Training on Summer Reading Challenge and using our database. We have sessions on 20th June and 28th June at York Explore. The 20th session will run 5.30 – 6.30pm and the session on 28th June will run from 4.30 – 5.30pm.
- Induction session including health & safety and risk assessment
- Daily support from library staff working alongside volunteers

Skills you will need:

- An ability to talk confidently with children, parents and carers
- A willingness and ability to work with IT
- Experience of working with children would be an advantage.

How much time do I need to commit?

The challenge runs throughout the school summer holidays. Venues and dates/times would be mutually agreed and would vary according to each library's opening hours and your availability. You may choose to volunteer in any of our libraries, and outside promotional events.

Please fill in our application form and return it to grace.ogden@exploreyork.org.uk