

CELEBRATING 20 YEARS
of Summer Reading

Barnes & Noble SUMMER READING TRIATHLON

Dear Educator,

This year, the Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Program marks its twentieth anniversary celebrating the power of books to expand children's horizons. We're partnering with educators like you to inspire readers in the first through sixth grades to have a summer filled with reading and to earn a FREE book!

We're excited to introduce our Triathlon theme, which encourages students to stay in reading shape throughout the summer by actively pursuing their interest in books of their own choosing, strengthening their abilities, and stretching their imaginations along the way. The activities in this Summer Reading Triathlon kit are designed to reinforce learning and nurture skills. Whether they are staying home or traveling, students can pick the books they want to read and proceed at their own pace.

Everything you'll need to introduce your students to the Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Triathlon is in this package, including classroom activities that build on the good work you've done all year long. You'll find downloadable versions of this kit and the Summer Reading Triathlon Journal online at **BN.COM/summerreading**

Enjoy your vacation—but first invite your students to have fun and earn a FREE book as they get ready to enjoy our Summer Reading Triathlon.



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Barnes & Noble SUMMER READING TRIATHLON Activity Sheets



Activity sheets are included in this kit.

They are also available online at **BN.COM/summerreading**

1. Sprint to Find Your Favorites

Identifying Authors and Illustrators



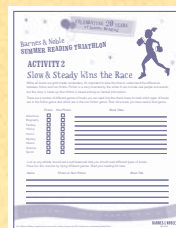
Using the questions on **Activity Sheet 1**, ask your students to think about what makes their favorite writers and artists so special.

Ask students to recommend a book by their favorite author or illustrator to their classmates, and have them describe the reasons why they think it would appeal to others.

Ask older students to imagine the title of their favorite author's or illustrator's next book. Have them compose the opening of this book in the style of the author or illustrator and share their ideas with the class.

2. Slow & Steady Wins the Race

Exploring Different Kinds of Books



Reintroduce genres to your class—mystery, biography, fantasy, history, humor. Which are fiction? Which are non-fiction? Discuss the characteristics of each genre and ask students to pick their favorites.

Ask your students to fill out **Activity Sheet 2**. You can encourage the use of classroom tools or use this activity as the starting point for a library lesson. Go over the books the students have listed. Discuss which types of books they like and which new genres they might like to explore.

Bonus Activity: Your students can “produce” a TV or radio commercial, or write an ad for a newspaper or magazine, describing their favorite genre. Let them decide which program or publication would reach the most receptive audience, then have them perform their skits or post their ads on a bulletin board.



3. Leaping Into New Roles

Imagining People and Places



Ask students to write the names of their favorite characters from books on slips of paper, and add others you know all students will be familiar with. Have students pick a name and take turns acting out the clue—with no words or sounds—until someone guesses the right answer.

Ask students to fill out **Activity Sheet 3**. As above, you can encourage the use of classroom tools or use this activity to initiate a library lesson.

To spark classroom collaboration, ask students to choose a role they'd like to play in a movie or onstage this summer. This can be a favorite book character, real or imaginary person, or historical figure. Ask students to help each other find books related to their role.

4. Strengthen Your Imagination

Imagining Your Story



Discuss how our imaginations shape our sense of what is possible and how exercising the imagination can inspire us in unexpected ways.

Ask students to complete **Activity Sheet 4**, mixing elements of real sports and their reading experiences as a triathlon event.

Bonus Activity: Have your students turn their triathlon event into a “poster advertisement,” transferring it to a poster board and pasting photos and cutouts to further describe and promote the event.

5. Barnes & Noble Summer Reading Triathlon Journal

Participating in the Summer Reading Program

Discuss with your students the kinds of books they might enjoy reading over the summer. You know better than anyone which titles will best meet the needs of your class.



Explain to your students that Barnes & Noble started its Summer Reading Program to offer kids a real reward for reading: an opportunity to earn a free book.



Distribute the Summer Reading Triathlon Journal. The rest is simple—students answer at least 3 out of the 4 questions on the back of the journal, then return the completed form to any Barnes & Noble bookstore to get a free book (see form for details). Parent/guardian signatures are required.

Upon completion of their
Reading Journal,
students will earn
A FREE BOOK



More Ways Barnes & Noble Supports You and Your Students

Educator Discount Card

Barnes & Noble offers pre-K through grade 12 educators 20% off most educational materials, including many items from our expanded selection of educational tools, toys, and games. This discount is available both in stores and online. During several Educator Appreciation Days each year, Barnes & Noble offers a 25% discount on classroom and personal purchases of books, toys, games, music, movies, and more. You can apply for a FREE Educator Discount Card at any Barnes & Noble store. Learn more at **BN.COM/educator**

An Extensive Education Selection

Barnes & Noble offers an abundance of curriculum-based materials for classroom use, books about the teaching process, and workbooks to aid with skills practice. Search our full selection at **BN.COM/education**

Barnes & Noble Bookfairs

With exciting store events featuring your students, plus in-store and online shopping to reach supporters everywhere, Barnes & Noble Bookfairs are a creative and rewarding way to raise funds for your school, build your classroom libraries, and celebrate literacy. Learn more at **BN.COM/bookfairs**

Required Reading Lists

Providing books that your students are required to read throughout the year and during the summer is a priority for us. We are happy to order the books on your school's required reading lists and keep a record of these lists. Contact your local Barnes & Noble for details.

Activities for Students

Barnes & Noble offers a variety of great events, including author signings, storytimes, and field trips, to stimulate kids' interest in reading. Our booksellers are always eager to work with teachers in their communities to coordinate events in conjunction with classroom curriculum. Contact your local Barnes & Noble for details.

Technology in Schools

Barnes & Noble offers everything from NOOK® eReaders and Samsung NOOK tablets to coding and circuitry kits and books to enhance technology literacy in schools and classrooms. Contact your local Barnes & Noble for details.

Help Your Students
Stay in Reading Shape
This Summer!

GYMNASTICS



WEIGHT
LIFTING



MARATHON



BARNES & NOBLE
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SPRINT



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ACTIVITY 1 Sprint to Find Your Favorites

Identifying your favorite authors and illustrators is an important part of playing the reading games. Answer the questions below to explain why you're a fan of your favorite writers and artists.

1. Who is your gold-medal author or illustrator?

2. What makes him or her your gold medalist?

3. What was the first book you read by this person?

4. How did you find out about this book?

5. Who would you recommend this book to and why?

6. What other books have you read by your gold-medal author or illustrator?

7. Can you always identify this person's art or writing style?

8. If you can, what makes it so easy to recognize?

9. Does anything else you've read share similar qualities?

10. Is there a story or subject that you would like this person to explore?

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ACTIVITY 3

Leaping Into New Roles



In both fiction and non-fiction, reading allows us to leap into the roles played by other people, whether they're historical figures or invented characters. List five characters or people you've read about who have faced challenges as individuals or as a team, and describe one way in which each is like you, and one way in which each is different.

| | | |
|---|--------------------|------------|
| 1 | Character / Person | Similarity |
| | Book | Difference |
| 2 | Character / Person | Similarity |
| | Book | Difference |
| 3 | Character / Person | Similarity |
| | Book | Difference |
| 4 | Character / Person | Similarity |
| | Book | Difference |
| 5 | Character / Person | Similarity |
| | Book | Difference |

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ACTIVITY 2

Slow & Steady Wins the Race



While all books are gold-medal contenders, it's important to take the time to understand the difference between fiction and non-fiction. Fiction is a story invented by the writer. It can include real people and events, but the story is made up. Non-fiction is based entirely on factual information.

There are a number of different genres of books you can read. Use the check boxes to mark which types of books are in the fiction genre and which are in the non-fiction genre. Then list a book you have read in that genre.

| | <i>Fiction</i> | <i>Non-Fiction</i> | <i>Book Titles</i> |
|-----------|--------------------------|--------------------------|--------------------|
| Adventure | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Biography | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Fantasy | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| History | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Humor | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Mystery | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Nature | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Science | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |
| Sports | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | _____ |

Just as any athlete should eat a well-balanced diet, you should read different types of books. Have fun this summer by trying different genres. Start your reading list here.

| <i>Genre</i> | <i>Fiction or Non-Fiction</i> | <i>Book Title</i> |
|--------------|-------------------------------|-------------------|
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |
| _____ | _____ | _____ |

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This image shows a single sheet of white paper with horizontal blue ruling lines. The lines are evenly spaced and run across the width of the page. There are no margins, text, or other markings on the paper.