It’s Time for Summer Reading!

Summer has finally arrived and so have the Milwaukee Public Library’s summer reading programs!

The Super Reader program is back for kids 12 and under and the teens have their very own program called Put Your Face in a Book. Both programs encourage youth to read for fun throughout the summer and recognize the progress children and teens make with earned incentives to support reading as a daily habit.

Reading during the summer should be fun and a chance for children to find books they truly enjoy. The library offers books on endless topics. So whatever suits your child’s fancy, there will be a book for them to read.

The Super Reader program features the Super Reader kids and their dog, Buddy. Together, with all Milwaukee kids, they are challenged to read to defeat Dr. Brain Drain.

Reading needs to become a daily habit for every child. Reading a little bit every day adds up. It can be 15 minutes before bed, or a few minutes at different times throughout the day. Children who develop a daily reading habit will maintain, and perhaps even increase, their current reading level throughout the summer.

Research has shown that school-age children who do not read over the summer can lose up to three months of skills learned in the previous year. This loss can be cumulative and can result in a child being academically years behind their peers who read over the summer.

Children who are too young to read can participate in the Super Reader program by having someone read to them. Just like Buddy, the Super Reader dog, who needs someone to read to him, young children can find reading buddies of their own. Reading aloud to your young child is the best way to help them become ready to read.

Children from birth through third grade are at the stage of learning to read. After they have mastered decoding, and honed some reading comprehension skills, they are at the level where they can read to learn. The library’s summer reading programs are designed to nurture that love of reading.

Summer reading continues for ages 13-18 with Put Your Face in a Book. As children grow into teens, schedules get busier and more varied, but daily reading and finding favorite topics and genres is just as important. Reading skills extend to other life skills, which in turn help teens on their journey into secondary education and eventually adulthood.

The summer reading programs run from May 19 to August 28. For more information, please visit our website: www.mpl.org/SummerReading.

See page 5 for reading suggestions from our youth services staff to get your summer of reading off to a great start.
For me, one of the most exciting features of the Milwaukee Public Library’s annual Summer Reading Program is being able to drive throughout the city and see the “I’m a Super Reader” yard signs popping up on lawns during the summer. This year we expect to serve more than 20,000 youth through our summer reading programs.

We focus a great amount of time and energy stressing the importance of summer reading to our children, reminding them that reading between school terms is not only fun, but vital to their success in life.

Of equal importance is continuing education for parents. Last year, the library’s Lunch and Learn series was developed in an effort to reach parents who are often very busy and don’t have much time, but want more information on how to raise their children to be readers. The first program, How to Raise a Super Reader, was expanded into a series of other topics that would be of interest to parents. Lunch and Learn programs are aimed at parents who work close to the Central Library and can spend their lunch hour learning new ways to help the readers in their lives, as well as continue their own education in parenting.

We are grateful to Cousins Subs for being a sponsor of the Lunch and Learn series by providing free subs during the program.

Last month, adults learned Tips and Tricks for Raising a Super Reader. On June 11, the program features Great Summer Reads for Adults. Summer reading isn’t just for kids. From the tried and true to the new and cool, there’s something for everyone. Great recommendations will be offered on everything from true crime to biographies, beach reads and mysteries.

The two remaining programs for the summer will be on July 9: Reading Adventures, which links places to visit in Milwaukee with books that will enhance the outing experience, and on August 6: Healthy Lunch Box Options which will guide parents through the library’s cookbook collection and online resources for lunch ideas.

The best way to demonstrate to our children the importance of reading and continuing education is to set an example ourselves. I hope you’ll take advantage of the Lunch and Learn programs.
Getting Children Ready to Read

Milwaukee Public Library’s award winning Ready to Read with Books2Go / Libros Para Llevar continues to successfully support early literacy in our community and shares information with childcare providers, children and their families about early literacy and ways to help prepare children so they are ready to read when they enter school.

New statistics show the most critical time to build connections that affect learning and literacy are in the first three years of a child’s life. Over the next year, Ready to Read with Books2Go / Libros Para Llevar will enhance its ability to reach more children earlier by providing comprehensive early literacy services to all children under age 5 and their providers.

Thanks to donor support, free regular programs are offered for families (referred to as Play and Learn), provide literacy-based thematic play environments for parents to interact with their children and also reinforce learning. The library also provides free ongoing continuing education classes for childcare teachers, with workshops that focus on the Six Skills for early literacy and ways to develop early literacy. At least 25% of all contact made through the program has a bilingual component to reach the Spanish-speaking population of Milwaukee.

The program continues to reach thousands of children and families and is generously supported by Jane Bradley Pettit Foundation, Richard and Ethel Herzfeld Foundation and Sheldon & Marianne Lubar Charitable fund of the Lubar Family Foundation.

If you would like to support the expansion of this outreach, please visit www.mpl.org and click on Support.

Jeff Cirillo Charity Golf Classic | September 22nd, 2014 | River Club of Mequon

The 5th Annual Jeff Cirillo Charity Golf Classic will be held on Monday, September 22, 2014 at the River Club of Mequon, 12400 North Ville Du Parc Drive in Mequon. Proceeds from the event will benefit the Milwaukee Public Library Foundation. For sponsorship and registration information, please visit www.mpl.org and click on Support, Jeff Cirillo Golf Classic.

10¢ Used Book Sale: Saturday, Sept. 20, 9 a.m.-4 p.m.
Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave., Meeting Room 1

Featuring a large selection of used books, books on tape, magazines, comics, sheet music, children’s books and more. All proceeds from this sale benefit the Milwaukee Public Library. Friends members may enter sales 30 minutes before the public with current membership card. Please use the Eighth Street entrance and present your card.

There will be a 1/2 price sale in the Bookseller Used Book Store during the 10-cent Sale.

Next sale: November 22, Holiday Sale ~ Central Library, 814 W. Wisconsin Ave.
Ten years after the zombie apocalypse, humans live a guarded existence behind walls and fences and survive by creating monsters of their own. Jory Gray, an ex-biology teacher works in assembling these creatures. Trying to find his lost love, Jory uncovers the true nature of the plague and the reasons behind it.

As most men reach middle age they begin looking forward to “what’s next.” This guide provides a comprehensive outlook on all types of health issues from diabetes and heart health, to holistic cures and mental issues.

The Divorce Papers by Susan Rieger. Fiction. 2014.
When Sophie Diehl is assigned her first divorce case, she yearns to return to the familiar world of criminal law rather than the messiness of family law. Debut writer Rieger shines at creating a clever and entertaining novel composed entirely of emails, notes, and legal documents detailing the goings-on of Sophie’s professional and personal life while helping her client Mia navigate a prickly divorce.

Slam Kicks: Basketball Sneakers That Changed the Game Edited by Ben Osborne. 796.323 S632. 2013.
Get immersed in sneaker culture with this historical perspective on Chuck Taylor All Stars, Adidas, Reebok, Pumba, Pony, Nike, Air Jordan basketball sneakers and more. Enjoy nostalgic photos of basketball legends wearing namesake shoes during some of the most important games of their career. View the evolution of the sneaker and learn why retro sneakers are popular now.

Questlove conveys a wonderful account of the history behind the iconic show Soul Train. Beautiful enlarged photos highlight how so many singers, groups and dancers shaped the pop culture during the show’s run. Take a trip down memory lane while reading about the various appearances, songs and dances introduced to America from 1971 to 2006.

Success Through Stillness: Meditation Made Simple by Russell Simmons, with Chris Morrow. 615.8528 S592. 2014.
Simmons guides readers into finding greater clarity and focus, and explains how to be healthier in mind, body, and career. He breaks down what he’s learned from masters of meditation into a guide that is accessible to those unfamiliar with the practice. The last chapter is a fantastic step by step how-to meditation guide.

As a young woman struggling to make ends meet in L.A., photographer Jennifer Buhl never dreamed that a chance encounter with the paparazzi would lead her to chasing celebrities around in her beat-up old pickup truck. It wasn’t long before she became one of the most successful paps in the business, revealing the real lives of Hollywood’s rich and famous from behind the camera.

Mister Owita’s Guide to Gardening: How I Learned the Unexpected Joy of a Green Thumb and an Open Heart by Carol Wall. 92 W18625M. 2014.
A moving memoir by the first-time author, chronicling her unexpected friendship with a neighbor’s gardener, a man from Kenya. Owita courageously faces his own sorrows as he reveals the secrets to transform Wall’s patch of weeds— and frees her wounded soul during a period of transition in the author’s life marked by an empty nest, serious illness, and aging.

Off Course by Michelle Huneven. Fiction. 2014.
Cressida moves into her family’s weekend cabin intent on finishing her Ph.D. dissertation. Happy to procrastinate, she lets loose and has a fling with one of the locals. Next she’s drawn to Quinn, a carpenter, and begins a more serious affair. When her family wants her to come home and begin her career, she’s blinded by her love for Quinn. But, is he as invested in the relationship as she thinks he is?

Contributed by Martin Luther King librarians Anthony Frausto and Jane Haupert, Library Technology Specialist Paula Mason, Library Reference Assistant Joy Mahaley, and Central Library fiction selector Jacki Potratz.
Break Into Summer Reading

Start your summer off right with these book recommendations from Milwaukee Public Library librarians. Visit your library for help in selecting books for the children in your life that will keep them reading all summer long.

Young children can explore by lifting-the-flap and discovering which animal is in each mode of transportation.

**Don’t Play with Your Food** by Bob Shea. PIC SHEA. (Ages 3-6)
Buddy is a monster, literally, so of course the bunnies would make better food than friends...or would they?!

**E-I-E-I-O: How Old MacDonald Got His Farm with a Little Help from a Hen** by Judy Sierra; illustrated by Matthew Myers. PIC SIERRA. (Ages 4-8)
The little red hen brings her entrepreneurial talents to Old MacDonald, helping him build a thriving farm which will be sung about the world over.

**My New Friend Is So Fun!** by Mo Willems. EASY LEVEL 1 WILLEMS. (Ages 6-8)
In the latest addition to the Elephant & Piggie beginning reader series, Piggie has made a new friend. What will this mean for Piggie and Gerald’s friendship?!

**The Chicken Squad** by Doreen Cronin; illustrated by Kevin Cornell. MYS CRONIN. (Ages 6-9)
The mischievous chicks from the J.J. Tully mysteries are ready for their own adventure filled with wit and humor. A terrified squirrel seeks their help in discovering the nature of a mysterious object that landed in the backyard.

**Bad Kitty Drawn To Trouble** by Nick Bruel. INT BRUEL. (Ages 7-10)
The reader and Bad Kitty learn how a book is created. In the process, Bad Kitty learns that life at your creator’s hands can get a little tricky.

**The Forbidden Stone** by Tony Abbott. MYS ABBOTT. (Ages 8-12)
After the death of his Uncle Henry, Wade Kaplan gets a coded message and then receives another at the funeral. Could these clues be linked to his uncle’s mysterious death?

**The Finisher** by David Baldacci. FIC BALDACCI. (Ages 10-14)
Outside Wormwood, villagers are told, live dangerous beasts. After Vega’s teacher flees into this unknown, he leaves her clues. She embarks on a journey to uncover the secrets surrounding Wormwood and those within.

**Coldest Girl in Coldtown** by Holly Black. FIC BLACK. (Ages 12 & up)
Coldtowns, where those bitten by vampires are sent to live to prevent others from becoming infected, are glamorized on a local television program. Tana Bach decides to investigate, hoping to return to her family unbitten.

**Darius & Twig** by Walter Dean Myers. FIC MYERS. (Ages 12 & up)
Darius and his best friend Twig both have dreams to pursue. Darius wants to become a writer and Twig hopes to go on to college with his track skills. The path isn’t easy as they try to make the best of their situations. A Coretta Scott King (Author) Book Award Honor book.

**Silver** by Chris Wooding. FIC WOODING. (Ages 12 & up)
Five students are trying to survive by trapping themselves in a classroom at the Mortingham Boarding Academy after a horrifying infection invades a student. The bite of a strange silver beetle causes human flesh to turn into metal and bodies into machines.

**This Star Won’t Go Out** by Esther Earl. 92 E11925A. (Ages 12 & up)
This tender memoir compiles journals, letters and even some of the fiction stories Esther Earl wrote before her death of thyroid cancer at the age twelve. John Green dedicated his latest book *The Fault in our Stars* to her.
Studying Wisconsin: The Life of Increase Lapham

Studying Wisconsin, published by the Wisconsin Historical Society Press, is a long-overdue tribute to Increase Lapham, Wisconsin’s first scientist and Renaissance man. Local authors Martha Bergland and Paul G. Hayes will read excerpts from their book on Monday, June 9 from 6-7:30 p.m. in Central Library’s Richard E. and Lucile Krug Rare Books Room. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing from Boswell Book Company.

A selection of maps and books by Lapham will be on display in the Richard E. and Lucile Krug Rare Books Room during the event.

Martha Bergland has written two novels and is the recipient of a Pushcart Prize. After retiring from teaching English at MATC, she began to study Increase Lapham. Photo by Barbara J. Miner

Paul G. Hayes became familiar with Increase Lapham during his 33 years as science reporter for the Milwaukee Journal and continued to write about him after his retirement. Photo by Philia Hayes.