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## Get Ready for Summer!

Summer is right around the corner, so why not start talking about the library's Summer Reading Program with your kids now? Let's move the needle on summer learning loss and get those kids excited to read all summer long.



This year, the program runs from June 1 to August 1 and kids have the opportunity to come into the library, sign up (as early as May!) and track their reading to earn a Chipotle burrito and a free book! The first 3,000 kids that sign up will also receive a fun reading timer to help them track their 20-minutes a day.

Want a librarian to come into your classroom and talk about how much fun Summer Reading is? We are visiting schools throughout the month of May, but April is the time to book your visit! Email [Jacqueline.higgins@phoenix.gov](mailto:Jacqueline.higgins@phoenix.gov) for details and to set up a time!

## Literacy Tip: Encourage Students to READ Over the Summer!

Repetition, repetition, repetition! The more we encourage students to read over the summer, the easier your job will be in the next school year! Here are some ideas to get those kids reading and to KEEP them reading:

- Phoenix Public Library's Summer Reading Program – make it a classroom contest! Collaborate with teachers and throw a pizza party for the class that reads the most over the summer.
- Take them on a library field trip before the end of the school year. Students can see how many fun activities we have here – we have more than books!
- Start a fun read-aloud book together. Getting them excited about a good story – like [Diary of a Wimpy Kid](#) or other funny, light reads, will entice them to keep going. Pick a series – they'll want to read the next one!
- Talk about what you will be reading over the summer. You are their model!



## Food for Fines and Spring Fling



There's so much happening in April. It's National Poetry Month and it's time to cash those cans in during Food for Fines!

Do you have lots of library fees and fines? You're in luck – you can use canned goods to knock those fines down. Pay overdue fees and help restock the pantries of Valley food banks during Phoenix Public Library's annual [Food for Fines](#), April 9 – 23.

During Food for Fines, 50 cents will be deducted from a customer's library account fees for each non-perishable food item donated at any of Phoenix Public Library's 17 locations. A maximum of \$75 can be paid with donated food. Perishable, expired, beyond sell by date and homemade food items will not be accepted. Donated food will be distributed to Desert Mission and St. Mary's food banks.

After you pay down those fines, stop by [Burton Barr Central Library's Spring Fling](#) event and celebrate National Poetry Month by pressing-a-verse on our hundred year old printing press, dance to some fun music and enjoy kids' STEM activities.



## Featured E-Resource: Universal Class



Visit our [eLearning page](#) with your [Phoenix Public Library card](#) and get Continuing Education Credits through Phoenix Public Library's FREE eResource, [Universal Class](#). Universal Class is an eLearning resource that offers online classes and education in a variety of topics, including [Teacher Education](#), [Curriculum and Classroom Resources](#). Subjects range from Unit Studies 101, which counts for 1.0 CEU, to ESL Grammar and Writing, which count for 2.0 CEUs – and so much more, including a variety of science topics.

Universal Class is also a great way to broaden your interests and take that extra-curricular class you've been meaning to try. Other areas of study include Arts & Crafts, Parenting, Personal Care, Psychology, Real Estate, Self-Help, Finance, and lots more.

## Featured Print Resource: Poetry!

It's National Poetry Month! Celebrate with your entire class by checking out some of the great poetry Phoenix Public Library has to offer.

Here are some great poetry picks:

[\*A Light in the Attic\*](#) by Shel Silverstein

[\*The New Kid on the Block\*](#) by Jack Prelutsky

[\*Love that Dog\*](#) by Sharon Creech

[\*Brown Girl Dreaming\*](#) by Jacqueline Woodson

[\*Won-Ton: A Cat Tale Told in Haiku\*](#) by Lee Wardlaw

[\*Lemonade and Other Poems Squeezed from a Single Word\*](#) by Bob Raczka

[\*Flamingos on the Roof\*](#) by Calef Brown



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