

Attendance Policies

- A parent or caregiver must remain in the library during the session.
- We ask that your child make a commitment to attend ALL (or almost all) of the scheduled meetings. Notify the coordinator and your child's Big Buddy in advance if your child will be absent.
- If you know that your child will miss more than two meetings, please consider signing him/her up for the summer or fall term instead.
- Please arrive on time—or your child's Big Buddy may be sent home or reassigned to another Little Buddy for the day!

Questions? Please contact
Sarah, Reading Buddies Coordinator
303-665-5200 x3813
sarahd@cityoflafayette.com



Some of the teen mentors your children might read with.

Visit the Reading Buddies home page:
<http://www.cityoflafayette.com/readingbuddies>

“Friend” Reading Buddies on Facebook!



When can my child become a Big Buddy?

Even after your child is too old to be a Little Buddy, we hope you'll keep in touch! During the summer, we offer Writing Buddies for 4th-6th graders, which involves creative writing with high school mentors.

Rising 7th through 12th graders may apply to become Big Buddies. (Especially mature 6th graders may serve as Big-Buddies-in-Training.)

Please encourage your child's friends, siblings, and neighbors to participate in Reading Buddies, and be sure to let their teachers know about this program!

Lafayette Public Library

775 West Baseline Road

Lafayette, CO 80026

303-665-5200

www.cityoflafayette.com/library



“It was great that my daughter was able to read with someone other than just her mom and dad.

It empowered her.”

—parent of Little Buddy, fall 2012

Reading Buddies

Little Buddy

Application

(students in grades 1-3)

**Today a reader,
Tomorrow a leader,**
—Margaret Fuller,



**Reading Buddies Program
Lafayette Public Library**

Spring 2013

What is Reading Buddies?

Reading Buddies is: a free program that pairs trained teen volunteers with younger kids one-on-one once a week for 45 minutes of shared reading and literacy games followed by 15 minutes of group reading-related activities.

Reading Buddies is designed to give your child **extra reading practice with a caring teen mentor** and to make the reading experience fun.

"He's awesome!"

*—Little Buddy, about his Big Buddy,
fall 2012*

Reading Buddies is NOT: a tutoring service for your child. Teen Reading Buddy volunteers are not trained or expected to correct learning problems or to teach your child to read.

Who can participate?

- Students in grades 1-3 are eligible.
- Students must be able to **attend all—or almost all—of the meetings.**
- Students' parent or guardian must remain in the library during the meetings.
- Applications are accepted on a **first-come, first-serve** basis; priority will be given to residents of Lafayette and students who attend Lafayette schools. Apply early!

More about Reading Buddies

Who are the Big Buddies?

Students in grades 7-12 volunteer to be Reading Buddies. Typically, they are teens who love reading, enjoy working with younger children, and want to give back to their community. They receive training before and during the program.

What do the Buddies do?

- Your child and his/her Buddy will take turns reading aloud.
- They talk about their books and do activities connected to the material.
- They might also play some reading-related games.
- During the last 15 minutes of each meeting, all Buddy pairs get together for a group literacy activity like a library scavenger hunt.
- On the last day, the Buddies will present a group project such as a play or a poetry reading.



In what language(s) do the Buddies read and speak?

We'll try to match up Buddies to read in either English or Spanish or both — whichever language they need to or want to practice. During some terms, we have Big Buddies who speak other languages, such as Japanese or French.

I'd like my child to be a Little Buddy. What do I need to do?

- Pick up an application in English or Spanish at the library (also available online in English: www.cityoflafayette.com/readingbuddies).
- Select which session(s) your child is available to attend:
Tuesdays 4:00-5:00, Feb. 5 - April 30
(no meeting on February 19 or March 26)
Saturdays 10:15-11:15, Feb. 2 - April 27
(no meeting on March 23 or March 30)
- Submit the application to have your child matched with a Reading Buddy no later than **Tuesday, January 22**. Apply early!
- Plan to attend the ceremony on the last day of each session! The Buddies will present a group project for their families. We will also have a short ceremony for Big Buddy volunteers and Little Buddies.

"Reading Buddies has made such a positive impact on my son and has helped him realize how much FUN! reading can be. It is nice to have an older role model and friend for him. I can hear them laughing from across the library! On top of all that, Reading Buddies is a free program!"

*—parent of Little Buddy,
summer & fall 2012*