Frequently Asked Questions

What is 100 Books Before Graduation?

100 Books Before Graduation is a reading challenge for students in 6th to 12th grade to read 100 books before they graduate from high school.

Why Should I Sign Up?

Studies have shown that students who read for pleasure and enjoyment see improvement in their emotional health and well-being, improved reading achievement, higher test scores, increased social skills, and reduction in stress levels. Plus, you get prizes!

Who can participate?

Students with an MCPL card who are entering sixth grade may begin the program the summer after fifth grade. Those who are already in middle school and high school may also participate and challenge themselves to finish 100 books before they graduate!

What prizes will I get?

When you register for the program you will receive a starter pack with instructions on how to log your books, a bookmark, and links to suggested reading lists.

Each time you read and log 10 books, you can come to the Underground desk in the Centereach building or the Youth Services desk in Selden, and choose a free book as a prize.

When you complete the program by reading all 100 books you will receive a final prize and certificate acknowledging all your hard work. Your name will also be featured in our Underground Teen Space!

100 books seems like a lot. How will I have time to read that many?

We don't expect you to complete this program in a week, a month, or even a year. We encourage you to join at the earliest opportunity possible, which would give you up to six years to complete the 100 Books Before Graduation challenge.

Do audiobooks count? What about graphic novels?

Listening to an audiobook or listening to someone read a book to you counts as having read that book. Graphic novels and manga count too. You can read books in whatever way and format works best for you.

Can I add the books I need to read for school?

Yes. We would encourage you to also read at least some books just for fun, but mandatory reading counts, too.

Which books, or which types of books, do I need to read?

Reading choice is 100% up to you! We encourage you to read a wide range of books in as many different formats and genres as possible, but there are no requirements for specific titles or genres.

Are there any rules about what I can and cannot read?

We're asking that you read books that are appropriate for you, but they can be fiction, nonfiction, graphic novels, audiobooks, eBooks, and more.

Who should the account be registered under?

Accounts should be created in the student's name, but if you already have a Beanstack account from participating in a summer reading club, you can simply opt in to the 100 Books Before Graduation challenge. For instructions, click on the How To Use the Beanstack app link at: https://www.mcplibrary.org/100-books-before-graduation/

Do the books need to be library books?

No. Any book counts.

Can I use books that I read for the summer reading club?

Yes, any book you read counts!

Can I use the same book more than once on my log if I re-read it?

No, for this program we would like for you to read 100 separate titles, so you have the chance to read as many books as possible. We still encourage you to re-read your favorites just for fun!