

Frequently Asked Questions:

(Changes from last year are highlighted in yellow.)

What is this club all about?

Why should kids have all the fun? This club is an opportunity for adults to celebrate and enjoy summer reading. To join the club, simply submit a registration form, either online or in person at the library, set a goal for yourself, and start reading! As you finish a book, let us know, either online or by filling out a form, and giving the book a rating of one to five stars. If you would like to write a brief review of the book to share with the club, it would be greatly appreciated by other club members, but a review isn't required.

What's "Novel Destinations" about?

Every year, the New Jersey Library Association comes up with a theme for the summer reading program. The theme this year is "Novel Destinations." Please see the "What's new with the club this year?" section below to read how this year's theme will affect the club.

How old do I have to be to join this club?

Because this club is meant for adults, you must be at least old enough to be entering high school (9th) grade in the fall of 2011. There is no upper limit on age.

Do I have to read a minimum number of books?

Yes, you have to complete at least *one* book by Labor Day.

How do I set my goal?

The goal is entirely up to you. It's for your personal feeling of accomplishment. Decide how many books you would *like* to read this summer, and set your goal accordingly.

What happens if I don't meet my goal?

Nothing. You will still be a bona fide member of the summer reading club.

What happens if I *do* meet my goal?

You will have a great feeling of personal satisfaction.

May I exceed my goal?

Absolutely!

Is there a special prize for setting the highest goal in the club and then meeting it?

No.

Does the club keep track of which books I've read?

No, we do not keep track of which books were read by individual club members. We will keep track of *how many* books each individual has reported as finished, and we will keep track of book titles and ratings *for the group as a whole*. To make it easier for you to track your own summer reads, there is a link for "Printable Reading Log" on the club's webpage.

There are also some good websites, such as www.shelfari.com and www.goodreads.com, which you may use on your own.

How do I get to the club's website?

Go to the library's homepage, <http://www.hclibrary.us>, and click on "Adult Summer Reading Club."

Do I have to write a book review when I finish a book?

No, but we encourage you to write one if you would like. After all, people may choose a book to read based on what other club members have to say about it. Even just a sentence or two would be helpful. All reviews will be published on the book club's blog, which can be reached from the club's website (click on "Blog and Member Reviews"). Content may be edited.

How do I use the blog?

The blog is where all of the club's book reviews will be published. Click on "Blog and Member Reviews" from the club's webpage, and you can browse through the reviews.

If you would like to write a review for a book, please add it to your "Finished a Book" entry from the club's webpage or on your "Finished a Book" lime-green form (available from the library).

All reviews must be pre-approved by the library before appearing on the blog, so there will be a delay between the time you submit your review and the time it shows up online.

I don't use a computer. Is there another way to participate in the club?

Yes. If using the Internet is not for you, we will send you print versions, updated periodically, of the titles read collectively by the club. We will also send you any other materials you may need. You may indicate your need for this on the registration form, or by calling Terry at (908) 788-1434.

Do I have to read any certain types of books?

No. Read whatever you want to read and have fun!

May I count books I listen to?

Yes, definitely!

Do the books I read have to come from the library?

No.

Is there a minimum reading level or a minimum number of pages per book in order for it to count? Do magazines count?

It is up to you whether to count any particular book. If you feel that the book or magazine *should* count, then count it. It's *your* goal that you're working toward.

If I read a book to my child or grandchild for the children's summer reading program, may I count the book as my summer reading as well?

You may count it if you feel it is appropriate. [See answer to previous question.]

Do I have to read the entire book in order for it to count?

For fiction, yes. For non-fiction, you must have read at least 75% of the book.

I was in the middle of a book when I registered for the club. May I count this book?

You may count any books you started reading on or after **May 30, 2011**. If you were in the middle of a book on **May 30th**, you may make your own decision on whether to include it with your summer reading.

Why would you publish my "name" on the Summer Reading Club website?

If you submit a book review or win one of the weekly prizes, we would like to post that information on the blog and/or website. We may also wish to post names for other reasons not foreseen at this time. The "name" posted will be the alias you have chosen.

Will there be an end-of-the-summer party?

Yes, we will have our End-of-Summer Party at the Headquarters Library (Route 12) on Thursday, **September 1**, at 7pm. Please call 788-1434 or click on "RSVP for End of Summer Party" to register.

What are the clues for?

There will be a puzzle, a trivia quiz, and a scavenger hunt to solve for this year's "Novel Destinations" theme. Clues for all three will come out every Friday, except for the first one, which will come out on Tuesday, May 31. Solutions must be handed in at the library, by email (tedwards@hclibrary.us), or by fax (908.806.5179) by the following due dates:

- Library Trivia Challenge: Saturday, August 27, at 3:00 pm.
- Database Scavenger Tour: Monday, August 29, at 11:59.
- Disaggregated Destinations Puzzle: Wednesday, August 31, at 3:00 pm

There will be drawings for prizes from the entries with the most correct solution for each puzzle/hunt. Submit your solutions even if you don't get all the answers; you may be the one who gets the most correct.

How do I win a prize?

Every week, we will have a random drawing for a prize. Everyone will get one entry just for joining. Thereafter, every time you finish a book, you will get an additional entry, thus increasing your chances to win. At the end of the summer, there will be a drawing for a grand prize. We will also give out puzzle-solver prizes, a scavenger hunt solver prize, a feedback form prize, and, of course, awesome door prizes at the End-of-Summer Party.

Do I have to be present to win?

You do not have to be present to win the weekly, grand, puzzle/hunt solver, or feedback form prizes. You do, however, have to be present to win door prizes at the End-of-Summer Party.

What do you mean by feedback form prize?

At the end of every summer, we ask club members to fill out a feedback form. Responses on this form are very valuable to us because they give us justification for continuing the club, and they have been helpful in suggesting ways to improve the club over the years. We would like to get as many club members to fill out this form as we can, so we offer a prize for a feedback form chosen at random from those submitted. The feedback form will be available from the club's webpage, as well as in print form from all the libraries, at the end of the summer.

What's new with the club this year?

The Adult Summer Reading Club theme this year is "Novel Destinations," referring to the fact that our reading takes us, mentally and intellectually, all over the world. Your book does not have to be a novel; as always, both fiction and nonfiction books are acceptable and encouraged.

So, to spice things up, every time you submit a book read, you will be asked for the country (or, if U.S. or Canada, the state or province) that your book was about or where it took place.

Sometimes a book will take place in more than one location - please choose just one. On the other end of the spectrum, a book's setting could be imaginary, non-specific, or universal. In that case, we will leave it up to you to choose the place it's most like, or to just leave this field blank.

Every week, there will be an updated map on the club's website that will show all the places our reading has taken us. It will be cumulative throughout the summer.

If you need reading suggestions to take you to faraway, or not so faraway, places, click on "Where shall I read?".

What else do I need to know?

Nothing! Grab a book, find a comfortable spot, and start enjoying your summer reading! (And just in case you *do* have a question not answered here, please call Terry or Jennifer at (908) 788-1434, or email us at tedwards@hclibrary.us.)