

Every Book is a Journey...



Burroughs Read-a-Thon 2017



The Journey of Read-a-thon 2017

Stories change us. Whether the story leads us through a really horrible, terrible day, or the story is the journey of a china rabbit whose heart is opened to love, we close a story knowing more than we did when we opened it. Welcome to the Burroughs Read-a-thon—a month of undivided attention to reading and stories.

New in 2017

The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane, written by Minnesotan Kate DiCamillo, is the featured book and theme of this year's Read-a-thon. In 2006, Kate DiCamillo won the Parents' Choice Award and the Boston Globe–Horn Book Award for fiction for this tale about Edward Tulane.

This year, students earn an official Read-a-thon t-shirt through minutes read. Kindergartners who read 2,000 minutes or more will earn a t-shirt. 1st through 5th grader who read 3,000 minutes or more will earn a t-shirt.

*"If you have no intention of loving or being loved, then the whole journey is pointless."
Edward Tulane's "shelf mate" in the doll shop*

Read-a-thon Terminology

READ-A-THON: The annual month-long fundraiser at Burroughs Community School, started in 2000 by parents and PTA members. Read-a-thon promotes a lifelong love of reading and raises funds for the school. Read-a-thon takes place in February. It is celebrated in March.

OPENING AND CLOSING CEREMONIES: Read-a-thon kicks off and closes with a skit put on by the 5th grade students and staff of Burroughs, and is attended by the families and friends of the Burroughs community. Please come. You will enjoy it!



PRIZES: Participating students will win prizes that are bought by or donated to Burroughs by local shops and companies. Prizes are accumulative. Some prizes are given to all participants, while other prizes are earned according to the funds a child raises. Top readers and top fundraisers have a chance to enter a drawing for an Amazon Kindle Fire.

GUEST READERS: People in the community can choose a book and come into the classroom(s) and read to the children. Minutes read count toward each child's goal. Guest readers can be celebrities in the community or family members

interested in promoting their love of reading.

FEATURED BOOK: Every year a book is chosen as the theme of Read-a-thon.

ICE CREAM AND PIZZA PARTIES: Classrooms with 100% participation in Read-a-thon win an ice cream party; all children in a classroom must turn in a signed Tally Sheet for 100% participation. Classrooms with the most minutes read and the most funds raised win pizza parties.

The Challenge

Last year, this community raised over \$100,000 for the Burroughs PTA fund by meeting the principal's challenge. This year our community is challenged to collectively read **2 MILLION MINUTES** and collect pledges for each minute read.

This packet contains all the information and all the forms you need to navigate Read-a-thon. Attached is a **Tally Form**, a **Pledge Form** and an **envelope**; you will find a sticker on the envelope attached to this packet. Use the sticker to let us know that you are fundraising online. At the end of Read-a-thon, use the envelope to enclose funds raised. Please enclose a separate check and Tally Form for each child in your family participating in Read-a-thon.

Table of Contents

Key Dates	3
Read-a-thon Purpose	4
How Read-a-thon Works	4
Step-by-Step Guide for How to Participate in Read-a-thon	5
Asking for Pledges (including online giving & employer matching funds)	6
Read-a-thon Rules	7
Pledge Form	Attachment A
Tally Form	Attachment B
Prizes	Attachment C
Envelope (for submitting forms and money)	Attached

The due date for student Read-a-thon Tally Forms, Pledge Forms and money is Friday, March 3.

If questions about the Burroughs Read-a-thon remain after reading this packet, contact: burroughsreadathon@gmail.com

Additional Read-a-thon forms can be found on the Burroughs website. Access the Fundraising and Read-a-thon tabs.

Additional copies are also available in the Burroughs office.



Key Dates


Opening Ceremony: Tuesday, January 31st. 9:30–10:30 a.m. in the Burroughs Gymnasium. Family and friends invited.

Read-a-thon Begins: Wednesday, February 1st. Begin tracking minutes read and begin soliciting sponsors. Use your Tally Form to record your minutes.

Read-a-thon Ends: Tuesday, February 28th.

Turn in Tally Forms and Pledge Money to Classroom Teachers: Wednesday, March 1st – Friday, March 3rd. Teachers will tally all classroom minutes read.

Closing Ceremony: Friday, March 17th in the Burroughs Gymnasium. Family and friends invited. Top prize winners are announced. Drawings for three Amazon Kindles.

Hobo Hanks Pizza Party takes place over lunch for the class from each grade with  the most minutes read: **Monday, March 20th.**

Classrooms with 100% participation win an **Overboard Ice Cream Party**. *All students must turn in a signed Tally Form to win.*

Overboard Ice Cream Parties for classes with 100% participation: 1-3 grades kindergarten – 2nd grade **Wednesday, March 22nd**; 3rd – 5th grades **Tuesday, March 21st.**

Principal's Party: One student from each grade with the most minutes read and one student from each grade with the most money raised will receive an invitation to Ms. Bartl's Overboard Ice Cream Party on **Thursday, March 23rd.**

Allergy-friendly options are available at parties. Parents can provide an alternative if preferred. A link will be provided containing product ingredients in the March bulletin.



The Purpose of This Journey

Each February the Burroughs Parent-Teacher Association (PTA) sponsors a Read-a-thon to raise funds for Burroughs Community School. The funds collected from the Read-a-thon provide the PTA with the majority of its annual budget. These funds allow the PTA to provide financial support for field trips, and for a variety of enrichment materials for reading, math, science, art, music, physical education and much more. A fundraiser that encourages students to read is a successful tradition at Burroughs.

How Read-a-thon Works

Read-a-thon is focused on the amount of time a student reads. This allows students with different reading speeds and reading abilities to compete on a level playing field.

Set a daily reading goal. Here is some guidance for setting goals by grade level:

- Kindergarten: 10–20 minutes per day
- First and Second Grade: 20–30 minutes per day
- Third, Fourth and Fifth Grade: 30–60 minutes per day

Students ask family, friends and neighbors to pledge money to Burroughs for each minute they read in February. They record this information on the Pledge Form (Attachment A). Students then track the time they spend reading—before, during and after school—and record the amounts on the Tally Form (Attachment B). *Parents, please sign the Tally Form.*

Step-by-step Guide for How to Participate in Read-a-thon

Complete the top of the Pledge Form (Attachment A). Please complete separate forms for each child in your family. Use the Pledge Form to keep track of the funds you earn throughout Read-a-thon. At the end of Read-a-thon, collect your pledges! Every dollar you generously give and raise is sincerely and immensely appreciated!

Fill out the t-shirt size on the Pledge Form if you read the minimum minutes for your grade: 2,000 for kindergartners and 3,000 for grades 1-5.

Complete the top of the Tally Form (Attachment B). Please complete separate forms for each child in your family and have a parent sign it. At the end of Read-a-thon, add up all the minutes you entered on the Tally Form. You will receive a note from your teacher with the number of minutes that were read to you in class. Add this number to your Tally Form and calculate the total number of reading minutes.

Include separate checks or funds for each child with their Tally Form. Checks are preferred and appreciated. Hand in the Pledge Form, the Tally Form and all funds collected in the envelope provided with this packet to your classroom teacher by March 4th.

For online fundraising, create a separate page for each student and clearly identify the student with a first and last name.



Matching Funds

Parents: Many employer benefit programs include a provision for “matching funds.” This means that if the employee contributes to an organization, such as a school, the employer will contribute the same amount to that school. Please check with your employer to see if they will match your contribution to Read-a-thon. Your employer will provide you with the necessary forms to be turned in to the school.

Your employer may need the EIN number for Burroughs. It is 411815570. You can also find it on the GiveMN site.

Online Pledges

Pledges can be solicited in person, over the phone or online at GiveMN.org.

Fundraising online for Read-a-thon is easy and quick. Follow these steps:

1. Go to the Burroughs Community School page on GiveMN.
2. Log in or sign up in the top right corner. (Don't skip this step!)
3. Scroll to “start raising funds” near the bottom of the page.
4. Create and name a ***separate page for each child***, for example, Edward Tulane's 2017 Read-a-thon. **Please use first and last name of child. When only a first name is given, accurate tallying is difficult.** Add text, photos, start date (2/1), end date (2/28) and more info if you'd like.

To ask family and friends for support, email them a link to each child's page!

How to Ask for Pledges

1. You might ask a sponsor to donate a pledge on a per-minute basis. To calculate this, take the number of minutes you plan to read each day times the 28 days of February. Then take that number and multiply it by the amount per minute your sponsor pledges.

Example: I will read 30 minutes a day. I'm going to ask my sponsors to pledge 2 cents per minute. If I reach my goal, each sponsor will contribute \$17.40 to Burroughs at the end of Read-a-thon.

$$\begin{array}{ccccccc}
 30 & \times & 28 & = & 840 & \times & 0.02 & = & \$16.80 \\
 \text{daily} & & \text{days in} & & \text{total minutes} & & \text{per-minute} & & \text{TOTAL} \\
 \text{minutes} & & \text{February} & & \text{for the month} & & \text{pledge} & & \text{PLEDGE}
 \end{array}$$

2. Instead of asking for a per-minute pledge, you could suggest that a sponsor donate a flat amount, say \$10 or \$20. If you use this approach, you can collect the money on the spot, and the sponsor can determine what he or she contributes to Read-a-thon.

Practice Language When Soliciting a Pledge



“Hello, Mrs. and Mr. _____. I attend Burroughs Community School and we are having a Read-a-thon fundraiser. Our students raise money by reading books and asking people to sponsor us for the amount of time we read. I plan to read a total of _____ minutes during Read-a-thon. Will you please sponsor me?”

Read-a-thon Rules



Friends and family may read aloud to the student. Add those minutes to your Tally.

Audio books (e.g., books on CD) do not count for Read-a-thon minutes.

If a student is unable to collect from a sponsor and turn in the funds by March 4th, he or she can still collect the money and put it in the PTA mailbox in the Burroughs office. There are no guarantees that late submissions will get counted toward prizes.

Prize levels are cumulative. For example, if a student attains a Level 4 prize, he or she also receives the Level 1, 2 and 3 prizes.

Calculations for determining the classroom prize will take the total number of minutes recorded by students in a given classroom divided by the number of students in the class.

Please complete the Tally Form by calculating minutes read. Teachers are not allowed to complete the Tally Form for students.

Employer-matching funds do not count toward prizes.

Pledge Form

CHECKS made payable to Burroughs PTA **PREFERRED**. Include separate checks and Tally Forms for each student Please

Student Name _____ Grade _____

Teacher _____ Room Number _____

My reading goal is _____ minutes per day.

I hope to read _____ minutes total in February. (Per-day minutes x 28 days)

Name/Address	Place of work (for employer match)	Pledge per minute	Total due	Total collected
1.				
2.				
3.				
4.				
5.				
6.				
If you collect \$125 or more, please choose a t-shirt size: _____ Youth Small (6-8) _____ Youth Medium (10-12) _____ Youth Large (14-16) _____ Adult Small _____ Adult Medium _____ Adult Large _____ Adult XL			Total Collected (Side 1)	
			Total Collected (Side 2)	
			Grand Total (Side 1 & 2)	

Name/Address	Place of work (for employer match)	Pledge per minute	Total due	Total collected
7.				
8.				
9.				
10.				
11.				
12.				
13.				
14.				
15.				
16.				
17.				
18.				
19.				
20.				
			Total Collected this side (add to Side 1)	

Attachment B Read-a-thon 2017

Tally Form

Each participant should complete a form and attach a check for funds raised

Your returned check is your receipt for tax purposes

Student Name		Grade	Room #	Teacher			WEEKLY TOTAL	Parent / Guardian Initials
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday		
Minutes YOU read AT SCHOOL			1	2	3	4		School
Minutes YOU read AT HOME								Home
5	6	7	8	9	10	11		School
								Home
12	13	14	15	16	17	18		School
								Home
19	20	21	22	23	24	25		School
								Home
26	27	28						School
								Home

Great Work! Collect your pledge money!



Add the total number of student minutes read at HOME and at SCHOOL

Add the total number of minutes YOUR TEACHER GIVES YOU this month for classroom reading

TOTAL NUMBER OF READING MINUTES (student and classroom)

Great Work! Collect your pledge money

*** Must be totaled!**



The Journey Begins..

Earning an **official t-shirt** is not Miraculous.
Anyone can do it!
Just put in some extra time with a good book.

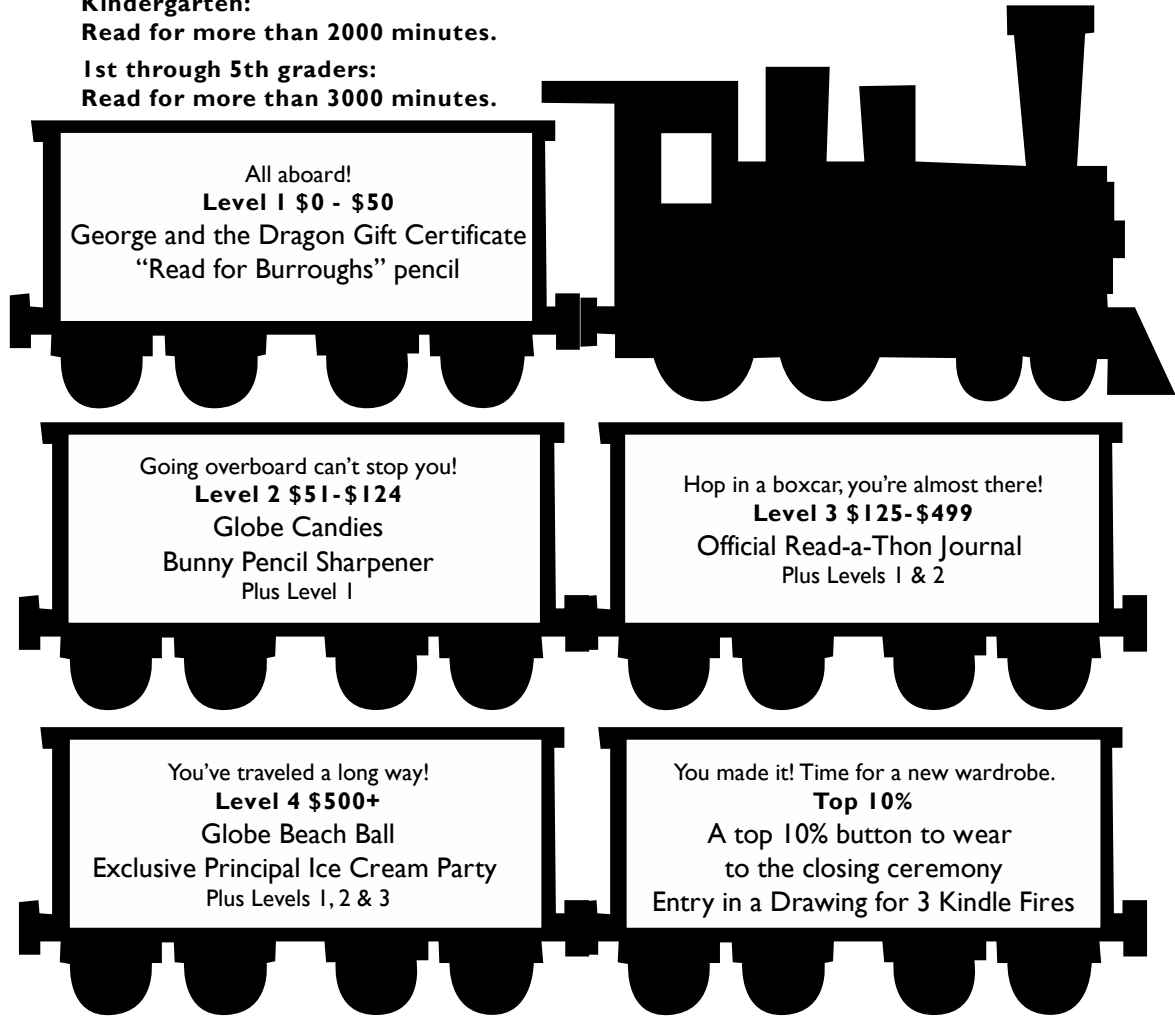
Kindergarten:

Read for more than 2000 minutes.

1st through 5th graders:

Read for more than 3000 minutes.

PRIZES!



All aboard!
Level 1 \$0 - \$50
George and the Dragon Gift Certificate
"Read for Burroughs" pencil

Going overboard can't stop you!
Level 2 \$51-\$124
Globe Candies
Bunny Pencil Sharpener
Plus Level 1

Hop in a boxcar, you're almost there!
Level 3 \$125-\$499
Official Read-a-Thon Journal
Plus Levels 1 & 2

You've traveled a long way!
Level 4 \$500+
Globe Beach Ball
Exclusive Principal Ice Cream Party
Plus Levels 1, 2 & 3

You made it! Time for a new wardrobe.
Top 10%
A top 10% button to wear
to the closing ceremony
Entry in a Drawing for 3 Kindle Fires



Top Reader and Top Fundraiser in Each Grade
Certificate of Excellence
Exclusive Invitation to the Principal's Ice Cream Party
AND
A photo of you with Ms. Bartl dressed as a bunny

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