



Russell Library Phantasmagoria Summer Reading Club

Welcome to the summer reading program “Phantasmagoria: A constantly changing scene composed of numerous elements.” for kids in grades 4 and up. We have created a fun, interactive program full of a variety of elements for you that are sure to get your creative side rolling. Here’s how it works:

Complete 7 or more of the following activities and receive prizes. You must complete activity #1 and #10 for the final prize.

Your choices:

1. Read a fiction book of your choosing. Write a one page reason why you think someone should/should not read this book. Submit it to a librarian to be displayed in the children’s room.
2. Read a book and then watch the movie based on the book. Compare and contrast the two: what did you like about the book? Was it better or worse than the movie? Based on your comparison, convince a friend why they should/should not read or see the movie.
3. Select one of the photos taken in Middletown that follow and are displayed in the children’s department, and write a haiku about it. Submit your haiku to a librarian to be displayed in the children’s room. Haiku, pronounced “high-koo”, is the Japanese form of poetry. It is brief, only three lines long and rhyming is not important, though the number of beats or syllables are. The first line has 5 beats, the second line 7 and the last line 5. Below is an example of haiku, by Issa, a Japanese poet born in 1763:

As simple as that-
Spring has finally arrived
With a pale blue sky

4. Choose a painting from one of the art books displayed in the children’s room. Write 5 words that describe your reaction to this painting and pick a song or piece of music that captures that reaction-share it with a librarian. Submit it to a librarian to be displayed in the children’s room.
5. Read an obituary or a biography. What’s the difference? Write your own biography.
6. Read a short story. How or why is a short story different from a full-length book?
7. Read a skit. Write your own.
8. Read a picture book to a brother, sister, mother, father or anyone else.
9. Listen to a book on tape or CD. After doing so, has hearing a book made it different than your experience of reading?
10. Write a short story. Use this beginning:
I was walking down the street and I turned the corner and
saw_____ . (For further help ask a librarian.)

OR

Create your own beginning.