



## EVENT IDEAS FOR YOUR BOOKSTORE

If you're short on time:

- **Voting for the Children's and Teen Choice Book Awards:** Create a display featuring the Children's & Teen Choice finalists. Include a box and some printable ballots and allow patrons to vote in the store. Enter the votes in the group ballot at [everychildareader.net/vote](http://everychildareader.net/vote).
- **Special guest storytime:** Invite a local author or other special guest to read their favorite books. How about a local educator, TV or radio personality, or a scientist? A language teacher could host a bilingual storytime event.
- **Dress up all week long:** Encourage kids and/or adults to attend an event dressed up as their favorite children's book character. Take pictures and award a winner at the end of the week!

If you have more time:

- **Community event:** Host a community read-along, read-a-thon or read-in.
- **Scavenger hunt:** Create a scavenger hunt in your store using book-themed clues. Team up with the other businesses in your town and make this a community-wide hunt that begins and ends in your store.
- **"One World, Many Stories" community party:** Reach out to people and local businesses and community centers from different cultures and invite them to share crafts, books, and food from their cultures. Create a map display where attendees can draw pictures about where they are from. Games: Get the older crowd involved with a children's book trivia event. Ask a local author to MC the event. How about Charades? Get kids up on their feet and acting out beloved books, new and old.
- **Story starter event or display:** Beginning with a story starter, go around the room and have each child add a sentence or two to the story! You can also create a display in your store where people can write their sentences. Post the story online or print copies to include with children's book purchases in the following weeks.
- **Partner with a local business or organization:** Team up to organize an event in your store or at another location. Some ideas include a sports league, afterschool activity program, zoo, farmer's market or animal shelter. The local YMCA, Boys and Girls Club or a Boy/Girl Scout troop are also good options.
- **Multigenerational storytime:** Co-host a multigenerational story time at your local community center or nursing home.