EVENT IDEAS FOR YOUR PUBLIC LIBRARY

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.

- **Storytime**: Read Children’s Choice Book Awards finalist titles, books written / illustrated by Children’s Book Week poster designers, or just read some of your all-time favorites. You can also use the “One World, Many Stories” slogan to create a theme for your storytime.

- **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.

- **“Read Now • Read Forever” community party**: Reach out to people and local businesses and community centers and invite them to share the history of their business, the town, or their family. Create a timeline display where attendees can draw events of the town’s history.

- **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.