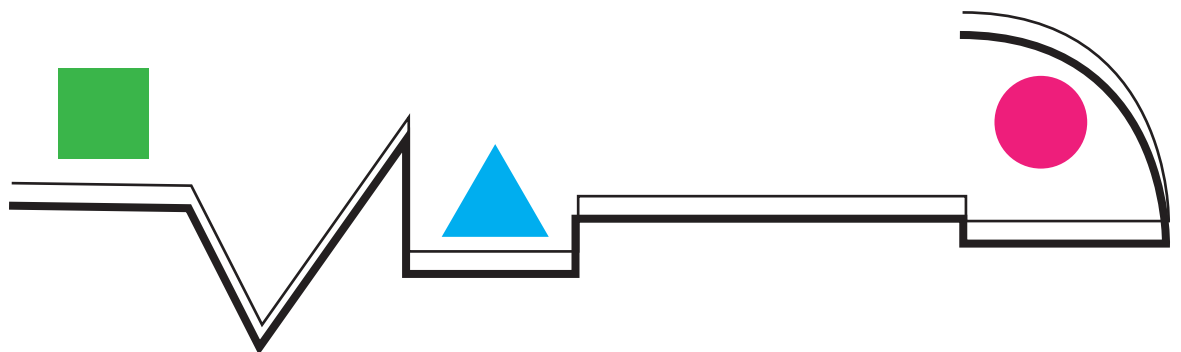
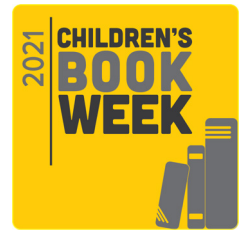


READING IS A SUPERPOWER

2021 Children's Book Week Educator Kit



Introduction



Since 1919, Children's Book Week has been celebrated across the United States. The longest running literacy initiative in the country, it is not only a celebration of books, but of connection.

At its core, Children's Book Week is a vehicle to unite kids and adults with books, authors, and illustrators in order to foster a love of reading. It gives educators, librarians, booksellers, and parents/caregivers a bi-annual, structured, and fun celebration about books and their importance. When kids are celebrating books and reading from coast to coast, there is an immediate sense of connection among them.

We want kids to know that they have a choice in what they read, and that any connection with books and storytelling is worth having. We also want young people to feel empowered by their own stories and experiences. That is why this year's slogan is **Reading is a Superpower!**

This kit has resources that can be tailored for all ages. It encourages young people to embrace their skills and passions, and develop new ones. It asks kids and adults to think about what their own superpower is, as well as collective superpowers that are used to make the world a better place.

So grab some paper, art supplies, and any books you want and celebrate with us this fall.

These activities can be used with kids 8-18. Some can be adapted for younger audiences.

Thank you for your participation and for the work you do to create lifelong readers!

EVERY CHILD A READER

PS - Find more resources to print and share online at EveryChildaReader.net/cbw. Kids and teens can also vote for the Kid's Book Choice Awards at EveryChildaReader.net/vote.





What is a real life superpower?

While it would be excellent to be able to fly, have super strength, or read minds, those are just the extraordinary sci-fi based superpowers of our dreams. What if we told you that superpowers exist among us too, and everyone has them if you know how to look for them. But how do you discover them in the people around you? Let's start with a definition and some examples to help guide you!

Mad Libs Definition

Superpower (noun): a skill, personal trait, or passion that plays an important role in your life, helps you do good in the world, and makes you feel special, happy, and confident.

This definition is just one of many you can use to inspire the search for your own superpower. Let's create your own definition of superpower now!

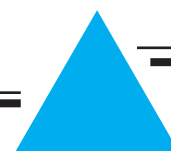
Pick a word from each category from the options below to use in your own superpower definition:

- **Noun:** Ability, Activity, Hobby, Passion, Pursuit
- **Feeling:** Curious, Determined, Empowered, Excited, Inspired
- **Action:** Change, Create, Discover, Explore, Experiment, Grow, Investigate, Play, Work
- **Area of Life:** Class, Community Group, Extracurricular Activity, Family, Friendship, Neighborhood, Performance Group, Personal Life, School Club, Sports Team

Superpower (noun): The _____ that makes me feel _____ to _____ in my _____.
(noun) (feeling) (action) (area of life)

While you're at it make up some crazy definitions, Mad Libs style. Fill in the blanks below with the type of word requested.

- The ___[noun]___ that makes me feel ___[adjective]___ to ___[verb]___ in my ___[noun]___.
- A ___[noun]___ that plays an important role in ___[verb ending in -ing]___ my life, helping me be ___[adjective]___ and do good in the ___[noun]___.
- My superpower involves ___[body part]___, being able to ___[verb]___, communicate with ___[noun]___, and read ___[noun]___.
- My ___[noun]___ has the coolest superpower of them all. They can ___[verb]___ while being ___[adjective]___ and never feel ___[adjective]___.
- If you ever feel ___[adjective]___ and ___[adjective]___ because you don't have a superpower, never fear! Your superpower is ___[verb ending in -ing]___ straight to ___[animal]___ and saying "I ___[adjective]___." Works every time.



What is a real life superpower?

“Superhero Doctor”

Jason Reynolds, our National Ambassador for Young People’s Literature, says, “my superpower is different than most peoples because really what it is is finding the superpower in others. I’m like the superhero doctor.”

And you can be too!

Not only can you help people pinpoint their superpowers, you can discover your own by thinking of people in your life and in the world who inspire you. What do they do that you think is awesome?

E.g. My friend inspires me because she/he/they makes me and others feel loved and appreciated. Her/his/their superpower is kindness.

Pick from the list below to practice your “Superhero Doctor” skills:

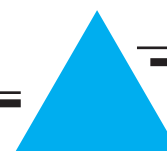
- My favorite athlete inspires me
- My favorite singer inspires me
- My favorite cartoon character inspires me
- My parent inspires me
- My favorite actor inspires me
- My favorite artist inspires me
- My aunt/uncle inspires me
- My mom inspires me
- My favorite book character inspires me
- My dad inspires me
- My grandparent inspires me
- My favorite community leader inspires me
- My friend inspires me
- My teacher inspires me
- My sibling inspires me
- My favorite celebrity inspires me
- My cousin inspires me
- My favorite activist inspires me



Drawing Superheroes

What do real life superheroes look like? Take a few of these people in your life and draw them to visually express their superpower.

Check out this amazing drawing of Gene Yang as inspiration.



Finding Your Superpower



Now that you understand what a superpower is, and have some practice finding the superpowers of others, it's time to dig deep to discover your own.

Some people already know what they are passionate about and some people are still discovering the things they love and are good at.

Activity List

Start by taking a look at this list of topics and picking a couple that you are most interested in!

- The Arts:** Dance, theater, music, visual arts, crafts, storytelling, and more.
- Community Engagement:** Connecting with and supporting the people in your home, neighborhood, school, town, and beyond.
- Environment & Climate:** Protecting the planet and all the plants and animals that live on it.
- The Humanities:** Literature, history, geography, anthropology, and so much more.
- Identity & Culture:** Discovering the cultures of others and your own personal culture -- what makes you *you*.
- Mental Health & Wellness:** Focusing on wellness of mind and spirit and learning how to express and explore thoughts and feelings.
- Physical Fitness & Sports:** Sports, running, walking, hiking, swimming, and anything else that gets you up and gets you moving.
- Science & STEM:** Experiment and discover the world through science, technology, engineering, and math.
- Social Activism:** Making positive change and finding causes you want to fight for.

Now go to EveryChildaReader.net/cbw/superpower-challenge/ to see activities you can do in each of the topics you are most interested in. These activities can be done individually or with a friend/group. Do as many or as few as you want. Use the Activity Recap to hone in on the superpower you discovered.

Activity Recap

I picked _____ as my activity.

I did the activity _____ (on my own/with a friend/with a group).

I felt the activity was _____.

I learned _____.

I discovered that one of my superpowers is _____ by doing this activity.



Using Your Superpower

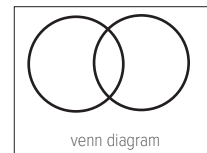


Discussion Prompts

- Now that you know your own superpower(s), how do you use it in your day-to-day life?
- How does your superpower influence your decisions and desires?
- Do you have any goals for your superpower and how it might grow?
- Did you discover a superpower that you weren't expecting?
- Does your superpower involve the presence of other people? Describe those people.
- Ask your peers about their superpower(s).
- Play with a friend where each of you tries to discover the other's superpower. Think of all the things that make them wonderful and use them to help them find their superpower.
- If you're not sure what your superpower is yet, imagine one that you would love to have (think of your favorite book characters for inspiration) and start acting as if you have it. Empower yourself with the superpower you aspire to!
- Check out the superpowers some wonderful book creators already shared (everychildareader.net/cbw/superpower-inspiration-2021), discuss them with friends. Which do you identify more with? Which one do you see your friend has already? Which one do you all wish you had?

Superpower Visuals

- Try drawing yourself using your superpower.
- Create a comic strip starring you as a superhero using your personal superpower.
- Design your superhero costume
- Do you have more than one superpower? If so, do they overlap with each other, or are they completely different? Try putting them in a venn diagram.
- If you have the materials, use modeling clay or popsicle sticks to build a model of your superpower in action
- If you're theatrically-inclined, write and act in a play where your superpower and the one of your friends or family shines.
- Go out and try out your superpower, have a friend or family member take photographs of you. If you cannot go out yet, create a mood board to remind you how you can use your superpower once you get the chance.
- Make a sign with your superpower's name and hang it in your room, or the fridge, or somewhere you'll see it everyday.



Certificate

(next page)



November 8 - 14, 2021

**CHILDREN'S
BOOKWEEK**



2021 SUPERPOWER CHALLENGE SUCCESS CERTIFICATE

Presented to _____

for completing the Children's Book Week Superpower Challenge.

Their official superpower is

(awarded on date)

(signature)

Proudly presented by Every Child a Reader in recognition of the discovery of their superpower for
Children's Book Week based on the 2021 theme, Reading is a Superpower.

