

District Wide Summer Reading Competition

Dear K-5 teachers & literacy reps,

This summer, Baltimore City Schools and the Enoch Pratt Free Library are encouraging all students to read daily over the summer. The summer reading slogan is *Every Hero Has a Story*. You will be receiving summer reading logs for all students rising K-5th grade in your building during the month of May. As a way to support summer reading, you may choose to participate in two district-wide competitions: 1) for your school 2) for individual students.

School Competition

The school that has the highest percentage increase of students participating in the Pratt or Weinberg Summer Reading Programs from last year will receive \$1000 towards their '15-'16 budget and will also receive a Hero Party at the start of the '15-16 school year hosted by Dr. Thornton, which will include visits from local heroes. In order to participate:

- 1) Give each student a summer reading log with their name and EOY reading level filled in on the cloud on the front cover and encourage students to take this log to their local library to sign-up for summer reading at the Pratt or Weinberg Libraries.
- 2) You will receive an online form from the Office of Engagement where you can indicate you'd like to enter your school to win \$1000 for your '15-'16 budget and a Hero Party at the start of the school year. You must register for the contest by May 25th, 2015.
- 3) Encourage students throughout the summer to participate in the Pratt and Weinberg Summer Reading. We will send updates via. email and social media to indicate which schools are leading and will provide updates as to how many of your school's students are signed up.

City Wide Writing Contest

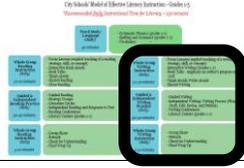
Below is a lesson plan designed to help you promote the Summer Reading Program. As a school, you can choose whether you'd like to utilize this lesson and enter your students in a city wide writing competition.

Winners will be featured in a PSA by Fox 45 about the importance of summer reading. In addition, winners will have their story illustrated by Chris Eliopoulos, cartoonist and illustrator of the Ordinary People Change the World Books. In order to enter your students to be eligible to win:

- 1) As a school, choose a winner for each grade level (K-5) to be entered to win the chance to be featured in a PSA by Fox 45 about the importance of summer reading. In addition, winners will have their story illustrated by Chris Eliopoulos, cartoonist and illustrator of the Ordinary People Change the World books.
- 2) Submit your school wide winning papers **by May 29th** to myherostorybmore@gmail.com. We will accept scanned copies of the winning papers or photographs. You can also drop winning papers off for submission with Carrie Finkelstein at The Fund For Educational Excellence (800 North Charles Street, Suite 400). Please note, we will ask for original copies of the submission if your student is chosen as a city wide winner.
- 3) Winners will be picked by a panel at the District Office and announced by the Friday, June 5th.

Lesson Plan

Learning Goal	Big Idea
1. Students will identify a personal hero to explain in an informational text.	What is a hero? What makes a hero?
2. Students will understand the importance of	What is the Summer Reading Log?

summer reading and be exposed to the Library's Summer Reading Program.	
Ongoing Assessment	Where this fits in the Instructional Model
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Observation of student learning and behaviors/ anecdotal records <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Informational writing rubric from <i>Explorations in Nonfiction Writing</i>	Whole Group and Small Group, Guided, & Independent Writing Practice 

Agenda (Lesson Sequence)	Management Routine
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Introduction (2 minutes) 2. Establish Purpose/ Connect with Prior Learning (2-3 minutes) 3. Whole Group Writing Lesson (10-15 minutes) 4. Small Group, Guided, & Independent Writing Practice (30-40 minutes) 5. Whole Group wrap-up (5-10 minutes) 	
Materials	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Hero video • Chart paper • Markers • Copies of Hero writing paper (primary and secondary writing paper attached below) • Summer Reading Book Log  	

Introduction (2 minutes)
<p><i>Today I'd like to tell you about an exciting opportunity that you have this summer! Summer is coming very soon, and we won't have school over the summer. You have worked SO hard this school year in reading, though, and I don't want your brain to forget all the great things you've learned in school. One way to keep your brain working hard is to practice reading EVERY DAY!</i></p> <p><i>Today, you will each receive a Summer Reading Log for you to record all the reading you do over the summer. You can bring your log to your local Pratt or Weinberg Library and other locations over the summer to earn different prizes!</i></p> <p><i>This year's theme for Summer Reading is: Every Hero has a Story. Today, we're going to think about our heroes and write about our heroes. We'll even have a chance to send someone's paper from our grade to enter a district-wide contest! The winner will get to be in a commercial on Fox 45 and talk about their hero. The winner will also have their story illustrated by a famous illustrator.</i></p>
Establish Purpose/ Connect with Prior Learning (2-3 minutes)
<p><i>During Module 3, we talked about informational text. An informational text tells about something or someone and gives the reader information about that person or thing. We're going to write an informational text today telling about one of our heroes. Remember- that's the Summer Reading theme: "Every Hero has a Story."</i></p>

Mini-Lesson (10-15 minutes)

Watch the hero video clip provided.

So, let's talk for a few minutes about the video we just watched. Turn and talk with a partner: Who were the people? Who were their heroes? Why?

Have students share out their answers after a turn and talk. Record on chart paper.

Model: *So, if I was the person in the video, I could write about my hero. I have to remember to start my writing by telling my reader who my hero is in the opening sentence. "My hero is ____." Then, I have to list several reasons why this person is my hero. I'm going to write some reasons: _____*

After modeling a few reasons why that person is a hero, ask students to contribute some reasons.

Great job! We just wrote an informational text about the person in the video's hero. Now, before we write about our own heroes, let's come up a list of possible heroes.

Record on a T-chart a list of students' heroes and reasons:

A Hero	Reasons he/she is a hero

Now, it's going to be your turn. I'm going to give you special hero paper, and you will write about your hero. Remember to do your very best writing. We are going to pick the best hero informational text to enter into the district-wide contest. Remember, the winner will get to be in a commercial on Fox 45 and talk about their hero. The winner will also have their story illustrated by a famous illustrator.

Small Group, Guided & Independent Writing (30-40 minutes)

Students work independently on their hero writing. Teacher either pulls a small group of students to support in writing or circulates for individual support.

Whole Group Wrap-Up (5-10 minutes)

Let's come back together to share some of heroes and informational texts about heroes.

Have a few students share their writing.

Now who can remind us why we talked about heroes today?

*Remember, over the summer, it is VERY important to read EVERY DAY. It doesn't have to be about heroes...you can read about any topic you'd like! **I'm going to give you this special Summer Reading Log with your name and your End of Year TRC reading level on the front.** You can take it home and show it to your parents and tell them how you can win prizes for reading this summer at Pratt and Weinberg Libraries. Remember, each day that you read, you're eligible for prizes. There are directions for how to earn prizes from the library and other locations. You can bring it to the library and ask a librarian to help you find a book on your reading level too. Remember- reading is a great way to keep your brain working over the summer!*

Modifications/Accommodations
<i>(Teacher inserts student specific modifications/accommodations as written in any IEPs.)</i>

