

"Let's Read Together!"



A Read Aloud Program for Young Children
Sponsored by Jefferson County Child Care Association
www.jeffcochildcare.org

Welcome to the 2025 "Let's Read Together!" Program Sponsored by Jefferson County Child Care Association (JCCCA)

"Let's Read Together!" is a reading program designed for child care providers and families to spend time reading with their child(ren) to support a love for reading and learning. Children love to listen to stories, look at pictures, hear and see the words, and talk about what happened in the story. "Let's Read Together!" is a great tool for your very special time during the day when you sit down to read to your child(ren).

Materials included in your packet: (Make more copies as needed)

- Let's Get Started Sheet
- Family Letters (print/copy one per family)
- Log Sheets (These should be copied to be used in child care and sent home for families to complete)
- Super Reader Award Certificates (one per child to be given at the end of the Reading Program with free book provided by JCCCA)
- Group Award Certificate (to be returned at the October 22nd JCCCA meeting in exchange for the free books for each child to take home)
- Classroom tally sheet you can use
- Examples of possible classroom posters

The "Let's Read Together!" program starts on **August 27, 2025** and ends **October 22, 2025**.

- Detailed program instruction and guidelines are on the "LET'S GET STARTED" sheet.
- A prize for the top three JCCCA programs reading the most books will be awarded at the October 22nd meeting. You must be present to win.
- The program materials will be on our website at www.jeffcochildcare.org if you need extra copies of logs or family letters.
- If you have any other questions regarding the reading program, please email JCCCA at jeffcochildcare@gmail.com.

LET'S GET STARTED

1. Tell your children that they are going to be participating in a reading program. Show them how books will be tracked and the logs.
2. Explain that every time they read a book at child care or at home, they will check a box on the log, add a sticker to your poster or color the books on the tally sheet.
3. The more books they read, the more stickers they will be able to add to the poster or the more books that will be colored on the tally sheet. This is such a wonderful way to keep track of how much you and your child(ren) have been reading.
4. Let the children know that you are going to send home logs to their families so when they read at home they can fill them out and bring them to child care to add to the poster or tally sheet.
5. Show the children the Reading Award Certificates. Tell them that on **October 23, 2025**, you will reward them a certificate and a book that they can take it home to keep.

AT CHILD CARE

1. Beginning **August 27, 2025**, start reading at least two books each day to your children. You can read any books you choose.
2. After reading, add a sticker to the poster or color the books on the tally sheet. You can make more copies of the logs and tally sheet throughout the program time. Have fun with this! You may create your own tally sheet and posters or use the examples provided. Posters and tally sheets can be for the entire program or for each child/family.
3. At the end of the week you can count the books read. This will allow you to practice math, numbers and counting with the children in your program. It is fun to keep track on your calendar how many books have been read each week.

FAMILIES AT HOME

1. Copy and send home a family letter and log sheet for each family. Explain how important this program will be to their child(ren).
2. Show the family how you will be tracking the books read and explain how excited the children are.
3. Ask the families to read one book or more each day with their child(ren) and fill out one of the logs. Once the log has been completed, have the family bring it to you.

GROUP AWARD CERTIFICATE AND RECEIVING BOOKS

1. Fill out the Group Award Certificate completely. Write down the total of books read as of October 22, 2025. Use the children's first names only.
2. Bring the Group Award Certificate to the October 22nd JCCCA meeting or send it to JCCCA to be redeemed for the free books to give the children. Select a book for each child (*Llama Llama Red Pajama* or *Finn's Little Fibs* are the books for 2025).
3. This is a great family engagement activity, and JCCCA has done all the foundational work for you!
4. There is no charge to participate in "Let's Read Together!"
5. Enjoy this program as one of your JCCCA member benefits.

Dear Family,

Our child care program is participating in the JCCCA "Let's Read Together!" reading program to support children's love for reading. We know that children begin learning at birth, but did you know that reading aloud with them for at least 20 minutes every day can boost your child's emotional and social development, nurture empathy, and significantly bolster their listening capability and comprehension?

How "Let's Read Together!" Works

- Each day, we will be reading at least two books together at child care. Every time we read a book, we will check a box on our log, add the books to our tally sheet, or a sticker to our poster to keep track of all the books we read together.
- We encourage you to participate at home by reading at least one book every night with your child. When you do, please check a box on the log provided to you. Please send the log once it is completed. We will add the books to our program total.
- It is so much fun to see how many books we can read, place stickers on the poster, or add to our tally sheet.
- By reading together, we can support children and help them prepare to be successful at reading and enjoy it throughout their lives.

Tips for Reading to Your Child

To effectively read to young children, focus on creating a fun, interactive, and engaging experience. Make reading a daily routine, use expressive voices and gestures, and encourage your child to participate by asking questions and pointing out pictures. Remember to choose age-appropriate books and allow your child to choose some books as well. By following these tips, you can create a positive and engaging reading experience that will foster a love of reading in your child.

1. Make it a Routine and a Positive Experience

Regularity: Establish a consistent reading time, like bedtime or after naps, to create a predictable and enjoyable activity.

Comfort: Snuggle up with your child, use a favorite blanket, and create a cozy atmosphere.

Enjoyment: Let your enthusiasm shine through. Use different voices, make funny faces, and show that you genuinely enjoy reading.

2. Engage Your Child Actively

Point out Pictures: Talk about the pictures in the book, asking questions like, "What do you see?", "What color is that?", or "What do you think is happening?".

Ask Questions: Encourage your child to predict what might happen next, ask about characters' feelings, or connect the story to their own experiences.

Interactive Reading: Let your child point at pictures, turn pages, or even say some words or phrases along with you.

Repetition: Don't be afraid to read the same book multiple times. Repetition helps with language development and comprehension.

3. Choose the Right Books

Age-Appropriate: Select books with engaging illustrations and age-appropriate language.

Interests: Consider your child's interests when choosing books. If they love animals, find books about animals.

Variety: Introduce a variety of books, including fiction, non-fiction, and different genres.

4. Be Flexible and Adapt

Know When to Stop: If your child loses interest or becomes restless, it's okay to pause or stop reading for a while.

Follow Their Lead: Let your child's interest guide the reading experience. If they want to linger on a page or reread a favorite part, go with it.

Don't Be Afraid to Skip: If a book is too long or complex, feel free to skip pages or shorten the reading session.

5. Connect Reading to the World

Real-World Connections: Relate the stories to your child's life, mentioning similar experiences or things they recognize.

Point Out Print: Talk about the words on the page, the letters, and how we read from left to right.

Make it Fun: Incorporate actions, sounds, and props to bring the story to life.

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"Let's Read Together!" starts on August 27, 2025 and ends October 22, 2025. Start reading today!

At the end of the program your child will receive a special Reading Award Certificate and a free book to take home and keep courtesy of JCCCA.

Visit your local Jefferson County Public Library (<https://jeffcolibrary.org/>) and check out the fun activities and books. Everyone is welcome, especially babies!

Name _____

"Let's Read Together!" Program



Keep track of the books you've read by checking a box for each book you read together. Be sure to count each and every book, even if you read it multiple times.

Monday ☐ ☐

Tuesday ☐ ☐

Wednesday ☐ ☐

Thursday ☐ ☐

Friday ☐ ☐

Saturday ☐ ☐

Sunday ☐ ☐

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SUPER READER AWARD

CONGRATULATIONS TO

FOR PARTICIPATING IN THE
JCCCA READING PROGRAM

“LET’S READ TOGETHER!”

Provider

Date



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GROUP AWARD CERTIFICATE

(To receive a complimentary book for each child, you must fill this out and return it at the October JCCCA meeting)

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PROVIDER'S NAME

The following are the *first* names of the children who participated in
"Let's Read Together!"

We read _____ books together!

Date _____

Reading Tally Sheet

Color in a book for
every 5 books read.

Each stack represents 90 books.

When all the books are colored,
you've read 180 books!

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SAMPLE READING POSTERS

Add a sticker to the poster for each book read

