

The Program

In all of our children's and teen programs, Halifax Public Libraries provides a safe, supportive, and fun environment for youth to strengthen academic skills. We use a mix of formal and informal approaches to help youth explore creativity, play, connect with others, and develop life skills. We aim to have a positive and lifelong impact.

Children's Reading Support is a key part of this youth-literacy plan. The program is a one-on-one weekly tutoring for youth in Ages 8-12. It focuses on reading and math and uses a customized learning program according to each student.

The extra support provided by Children's Reading Support can be the boost youth need to break down barriers to learning and lead to greater school success.

How Volunteers Can Help

As a Children's Reading Support Volunteer, you will:

- Expand the library's capacity to offer this essential program, providing accessible, community-based learning.
- Be matched with a young student with whom you will take a learning journey together.
- Be a mentor and role model as well as a tutor.
- Enrich connections between the Library and families in the community.

The Volunteer Role

Under the supervision of the Library branch Reading Support Coordinator, you will:

- Develop a learning plan focused on literacy and math for your learner based on their identified learning needs and their personal interests and experiences.
- Use a wide variety of materials (books, games, crafts, art, puzzles, technology, etc.) to motivate the learner and make learning fun and engaging.
- Meet with your learner at the Library for one hour each week.
- Continually monitor the learner's progress by reviewing school report cards and other progress reports and by adapting your learning plan if needed.
- Act as a mentor and a role model to the learner, and support the development of life skills in addition to the program.

We are looking for volunteers who:

- Are at least 19 years of age
- Have great interpersonal and communication skills
- Have a passion for working with youth and guiding them to reach their potential
- Are friendly and outgoing and enjoy meeting new people
- Have excellent planning and organizational skills
- Are flexible and can adapt learning plans to meet changing needs
- Are reliable and punctual
- Enjoy teaching people new things

Time Commitment

2-3 hours per week from September to May, including 1 hour with the student and 2 hours for preparation.

PLEASE NOTE

All volunteers will require a Criminal Record Check. The Library will initiate the check through MyBackCheck.com and will also cover the cost.

Contact

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