On the Road to Anywhere

On the road, to anywhere
With never a heartache, with never a care.

We have no home, we have no camp,
We’re grateful for anything the new day brings.

On the road to anywhere
Each milestone seems to say, “Almost there!”

The road to anywhere, the road to anywhere
Will lead to Summer Reading one day!

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
We Are Living in Sensitive Times
The Important Work You Do!
First Visit to the SHERWOOD FOREST LIBRARY

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
My Mother Was a Genius!
Brace Elementary School
“Mrs. Wells, Why Are You Here? It’s Summer?”
After 30 years of presenting for Libraries, I believe Librarians have Super Powers!

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
Who Inspired You?

Who Have You Inspired?

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
THE ADVENTURE OF SUMMER READING
ADVENTURE: A Definition

• An unusual, remarkable, and exciting experience.

• A daring and exciting activity calling for enterprise and enthusiasm.

• Enterprise is the readiness to act boldly and get something started.
ADVENTUROUS: A Definition

• The willingness to try something new & push beyond your comfort zone to grow and learn.

• Willing to go where you haven’t been before and do things you’ve never done, even if you don’t know how it’s going to turn out.

• Being Adventurous means embracing the unfamiliar and the unknown for the sake of learning something new or accomplishing a goal.
Not only is ADVENTURE this summer’s theme but, it sounds like...

A Librarian’s Job Description!

Libraries make things happen.
Learning to be Adventurous at Camp!
CHAT AN ADVENTURE!

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
What I learned about Adventures At Summer Camp!

✓ Trying new things helps you grow & become more confident even if you are nervous or scared.

✓ Caring mentors provide knowledge, resources, positive support & motivation that allows people to try something new.

✓ Creating an inclusive, inviting space where everyone belongs helps build a greater level of comfort & community.
Summer Reading is like Summer Camp.... but the kids don’t have to STAY OVERNIGHT!
Libraries are Life-long Learning Hubs!
What Psychologists say about the value of ADVENTURE!
The need for adventure is in our DNA!
Stimulates curiosity & a sense of excitement
Increases the release of Dopamine
Develops resilience, personal growth & self-discovery
Produces higher self-esteem, lower stress & anxiety
Improves ability to think quickly, solve problems & adapt
Gives us a deeper sense of capabilities, an increase in confidence & an expanded comfort zone.
From Frank Farley, Ph.D. Professor at Temple University

• Whether it’s a physical, mental, artistic, instrumental, culinary, literary, live or virtual, ADVENTURES MAKE US FEEL GOOD!

• Engaging and focusing during new activities ignites creativity, curiosity, and a sense of well being that lasts long after the activity is over.

• Adventurous experiences improve brain health by increasing learning and adaptability, and therefore, NEUROPLASTICITY
Adventure Promotes 21st Century Skills

- Critical Thinking
- Creativity
- Collaboration
- Communication
- Information Literacy
- Media Literacy
- Technological Literacy
- Flexibility
- Leadership
- Initiative
- Productivity
- Social Skills
Simplifying & Streamlining: Summer Reading Planning

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
Your Library’s Logistics & Your Community

- Be Realistic
- Simple Is Good
- “But, I’m the only staff!”
- Who can HELP?
- 6 Weeks of SR
The Adventure Theme is Limitless But You Don’t Have to Do It ALL!!

Choose program ideas that best fit your Community & Your Patrons
Survey Your Patrons!

What types of Adventures would they be interested in this summer?

- Books/Stories/Writing
- Games
- Travel
- Outdoor Adventures
- Hiking
- Arts/Crafts
- Cooking
- Science
- Movies
- Scavenger Hunt
- Yoga/Tai Chi/Exercise
SIMPLIFY YOUR FOCUS for all ages:

Adventure-Seekers
Explorers
Super Heroes
Time Travelers
Detectives
VENTURE INTO YOUR COMMUNITY

• Parks
• Trails
• Gardens
• Museums
• Nature Centers
• Skate Parks
• Bike Trails
• Theaters

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
Hold programs off-site & then
Lead patrons back to your library!
Adventure Program Patron Goals!

- READ SOMETHING to learn how to
- DO SOMETHING NEW
- DO IT so that they can
- SHARE WHAT YOU LEARNED WITH OTHERS
Interesting Adventure Idea!
COMMUNITY BOOK WALK &
SCAVENGER HUNT
Don’t Re-invent the Wheel!

• CSLP Manual

• Recycle, Adapt, & Reuse Program Ideas

• Collaborate with other Librarians for ideas
CHAT 2-3 ADVENTURE IDEAS IN YOUR COMMUNITY

let the Adventure BEGIN

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
Create a SIMPLE Adventure-Seeker’s Tracking Log:

* Schedules
* Reading Record
* Program Pages
* Stamps for Participation
Marketing Brainstorm
Going Beyond the Website Calendar

• Flyers, Posters, Newspapers, Community Calendars
• Local TV & Radio
• Email, Social Media, Video *(find a digital native to help!)*
• Spring School Visits
• Connections at Summer Schools, Religious Organizations, Youth Groups, Day Camps, Day Cares, Preschools, Parks & Rec, Senior Centers

People need to see an event 9 times before making a commitment to attend!

ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY™
Summer Reading Adventure Inspiration from some great minds!

“The purpose of life, after all, is to live it, to taste experience to the utmost, to reach out eagerly and without fear for newer and richer experience.” — Eleanor Roosevelt
Life is a daring adventure towards an unknown future. Its beauty depends on how much you enjoy the journey. Debasish Mridha, physician, philosopher and author
And finally, let us remember the words of Hobbit, Bilbo Baggins who said:

“It’s a dangerous business, Frodo, going out your door. You step onto the road, and if you don’t keep your feet, there’s no knowing where you might be swept off to.” — J.R.R. Tolkien
Concluding Thoughts...

- Good programming is important
- Simple is Better
- Community Partners are Key

Questions?
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