December 2025

Mayor's Book Club

December Book-of-the-Month - The Reader

Sponsored by: The Woods Foundation

Did You Know

Opening a book with your child opens the world to them—sparking curiosity, supporting school success, and creating meaningful family time.

Make the most of reading together:

- Talk, listen, and ask questions.
- Use songs and rhymes to build language skills.
- Read together every day and let your child choose books.
- Find a cozy spot and model a love of reading.
- Visit the library often and get your child a library card.
- Most importantly, keep it fun!

It's Fun and Easy!

The Reader by Amy Hest is a quiet and cozy story about a boy and his dog who venture outside on a snowy day for one special activity: reading a book together. It's a celebration of friendship, imagination, and the joy of stories.

Tip #1 – The Reader is a great story to act out with props! Bundle up with a scarf and mittens, grab a favorite stuffed animal, and pretend you're out on a snowy adventure too.

Tip #2 – The illustrations in The Reader use soft colors to match the quiet mood of the story. Look closely at the snowy scenes and then try creating your own snowy picture using white crayons or chalk on dark paper.

Tip #3 – Ask your reader: What's your favorite book to share with someone else? Why is it special? Talking about books we love helps us connect with others, just like the boy and his dog.

The Reader

BOOK
BLOWS
BUNNY
COLD
CRUNCH
DOG
WAITING
WIND
WORLD
SIP
SNOW
TILTING
TOAST

mayorsbookclub.org

757-727-2710

The images in this newsletter were taken from these resources:
Bing, Amazon, Pinterest, Lowes, Barnes & Noble

Community Resources to Bring the Story to Life

Fort Fun Playground
Fort Fun Cir.
Newport News, VA 23601

SPCA Petting Zoo
523 J. Clyde Morris Blvd
Newport News, VA 23601

Hampton Holly Days Parade
Downton Hampton
December 6, 2025
Step-off at 5:00 PM

Places Where Kids Can Enjoy Winter Themed Activities

Learning Through Play

My Cozy Reading Spot Diorama

Materials:

- Shoe box or small cardboard box
- Construction paper
- Cotton balls (for snow)
- Markers or crayons
- Glue, scissors
- Small figure cutouts of a child and a dog (or students can draw their own)

Directions:

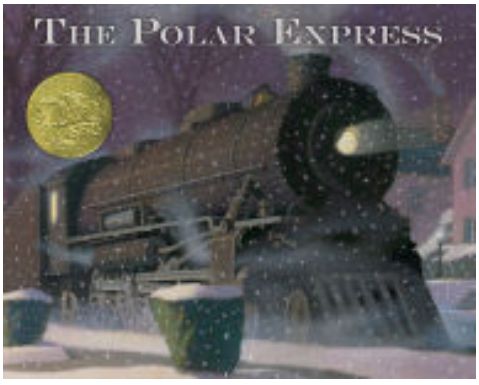
1. Turn the shoe box sideways to make a mini scene.
2. Use cotton balls to create snow on the ground and sky.
3. Draw or cut out a hill and glue it into the background.
4. Have your child draw themselves and a reading buddy (friend, dog, or any animal).
5. Glue the characters at the top of the hill.
6. Add a tiny construction-paper book in their hands.
7. Title the scene: "My Cozy Reading Spot."

Learning Connection:
Students visualize setting, understand mood, and reflect on meaningful reading spaces.

What's Happening in Hampton

Lowe's
D.I.Y U Kid's Workshop: Sleigh Ride building
Saturday, December 20, 2025
10:00 AM- 1:00 PM
2002 Powerplant Parkway, Hampton ,VA 23666

Barnes & Noble
Storytime: The Polar Express
Sunday, December 21st, 2025
4:00PM
5100 Kilgore Ave, Hampton, VA 23666

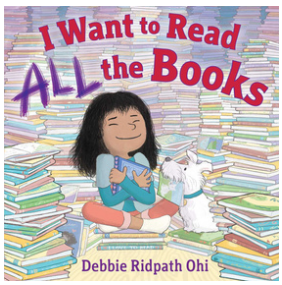


Book Picks

Read! Read! Read!
by
Amy Ludwig Vanderwater &
Ryan O'Rourke

One Girl
by
Andrea Beaty & Dow
Phumiruk

I Want to Read All the Books
by
Debbie Ridpath Ohi



Thanks to Langley Civic Leaders Association, Air Force Association - Langley Chapter, Exchange Club of Wythe for their monthly support of the Mayor's Book Club