



October 2018

Dear McKinley Families,

Have you heard the news? McKinley is kicking off a new school-wide reading challenge called “Ready? Set? Read!” We know our students love to read, and we hope this will encourage them to find new books to enjoy, and to keep track of their reading throughout the year.

Each student has received a game board with a different reading challenge in each square. Students in grades K-2 received pre-printed boards, while students in grades 3-6 are working to set reading goals and use their creativity and interests to fill the squares on their boards themselves. As students complete the reading challenges, they will cross off the squares and keep a list of the books they’re reading on the back. Along the way, students will reach special scratch-off spaces to reveal hidden prizes!

We know that all of our students read and enjoy books in different ways and at different paces, and as such, “Ready? Set? Read!” is not meant to be a race to the finish. More important than speed or the number of books read is the joy and pride we hope your child will find in reading, and in participating in the challenge. Also, while we are encouraging students to find ways to challenge themselves, we would also love to see them revisit old favorites, share books with others, and take pleasure in the act of reading. As a result, we hope to see all of our McKinley readers engaging with a variety of books, whether challenging, relaxing, or both!

Please be sure to ask your child about “Ready? Set? Read!” and to encourage reading at home as well. Students are not required to read only books from the McKinley Library, and are welcome to get their books elsewhere or to visit the Abington Free Library. For more information about the Abington Free Library, including how to get a free library card, please visit <http://www.abingtonfreelibrary.org/>.



Happy Reading!

F.A.Q.s

Do students have to complete the game board in order?

To claim each prize, all of the squares leading up to the scratch-off reward must be completed. As such, students will reach the prizes quicker if they complete the reading challenges in order. However, readers are welcome to jump around if they would like.

Can students use one book to cross off more than one square?

Most squares are completed by finishing an entire book, but not every square requires this. Squares that focus on a reading task, such as reading outside, in bed, or with a friend, can be completed just by the act of reading, regardless of how much is read. As such, readers can combine these squares with another. For example, if a student reads a few chapters of a mystery book outside, and then later finishes the mystery, they may cross off both “Mystery book” and “Read outside.” Students only need to record the title on the back of their boards once.

How long should it take to complete the game?

The game is meant to encourage students to think about reading in new ways, to read and enjoy a variety of different books, and to have fun! While students may move through it at different paces, it averages out to about one book per week. It's definitely not a race! Whether readers finish the entire game, read their way through part of the board, or challenge themselves to complete more than one game board, we are hoping that students embrace the game as a fun challenge, and not a source of stress or discomfort about reading. If a student completes all of the challenges before the end of the school year and would like to play again, additional game boards are available.

