SummerQuest 2020 Directions

Welcome to SummerQuest 2020! Because this is a different kind of summer due to the pandemic, you'll find some differences in SummerQuest this year, beginning with the fact that SummerQuest is online for the first time. But the goal is still the same: to have fun reading over the summer!!

As always, there is a SummerQuest gameboard and story, both created by Library Associate Dave Burbank. And, as always, we thank the Friends of the Takoma Park Maryland Library for sponsoring SummerQuest and, this year, for hosting the story, gameboard and other SQ info on their website!

In the SummerQuest story, there are 10 sections, and each one has a reading challenge. Because the Library is closed, we can't track your progress along the giant gameboard in the Children's Room this year. Instead, we urge you to print out the gameboard and use it as one way to track your own progress through SummerQuest 2020. Here, on the Friends of the Library website, there's also a page of Dave's rabbit characters that you can copy, and then use one as your gameboard "token," if you want.

This year, we also have another fun way to track your progress, through a FREE app called Reader Zone. It's quick and easy to download the app and set up an account. Once you find the version of app that works for your phone (iPhone or Android), download it. To set up an account, pick a User Name and Password. Then, select either "I am a Reader" or "I am a Parent." Then add the reader. You can add multiple readers to your account.

Then to join the SummerQuest 2020 group in the app, you put in a code. There are codes for four different SummerQuest groups this year: schoolkids (our regular SQ group), which also has a second code to record books for the "read extra books" No. 9 challenge; pre-K -- babies, toddlers, preschoolers and their grown-ups; and adults.

(Note: Pre-K has a separate set of challenges. Look for those on this website. Adults also have a set of challenges, somewhat modified from the "Schoolkids" version, which you'll find as you move through the app)

Here are the codes:

Pre-K **3a110**

Schoolkids 1bcb5

Extra books read 7c87a (You'll find this category needed when you get to No. 9 in the story)

Adults 64b02

Once you've put in the code, join the first reading group (which is the first challenge). If you know what book you're going to read for the challenge, you can enter it here, or just skip that step until you're finished the book and are ready to log it. To do that, type in the book title (or author or ISBN) and select it. Click that you've read it, and you'll unlock an award. At first, you'll see a page with a trophy on it; click OK and you'll unlock a badge featuring one of Dave's SummerQuest rabbits. (Note: more info on the Reader Zone app can be found here: https://www.readerzone.com/app

For those who prefer it, you also can track your books on Reader Zone's website: https://www.readerzone.com/ Sign up for a free account, then you can log in to add readers and track their books.

This year, ALL books count! In addition to print books that you may have at home or have borrowed from the library, there are many sources for books online. You can find ours here. [http://www.takomapark.info/library/ebooks.html]

For these you need to use your library card number to set up a personal account (if you haven't already):

Hoopla for audiobooks, e-books, and comics Freading for ebooks, including lots of excellent non-fiction

For TumbleBooks, you don't need to set up a special account, just use your library card number every time you sign in.

Tumblebooks for very young readers (text and audio together) Tumblereadables for older students (all sorts of formats)

If you have questions about using the app, please feel free to email Karen MacPherson, children's & teen services coordinator, at karenm@takomaparkmd.gov.

And if you need book suggestions, please email me or Children's Librarian Kati Nolfi at kathrynn@takomaparkmd.gov or Library Associate Dave Burbank at davidb@takomaparkmd.gov. We're always happy to recommend books!! Just tell us a little about your reader – age, grade – and what kind of books they normally enjoy, and we'll suggest some books.