



Summer of
Reading Exploration

PILOT PROJECTS

Beyond School Bells is now accepting applications for “Summer of Reading Exploration” Pilot Projects. Applications are available on the [BSB website](#) and are due Monday April 21 by 5 pm.

On your application, choose one pilot project you would most like to participate in:



“Free to Read”
Program Book Stand
and Reading Area



Help develop a
Reading, Writing, &
Movement
Connection Club



Help develop a
Photography for
Books Club



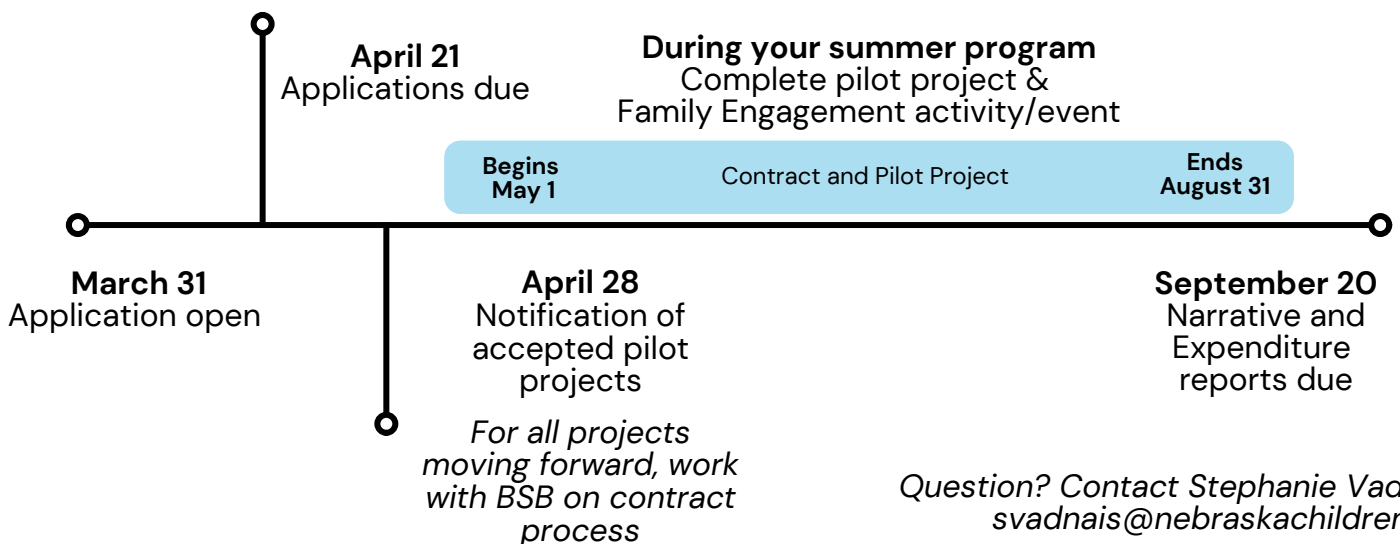
All pilots include a Family Engagement activity or event

Find more information about each project on page 3!

Budget: Up to \$2500 *

*Beyond School Bells will make an initial purchase of pre-selected books connected to each project that you do not have to include in your budget.

Timeline



PILOT GOALS:

1

Encourage more students to identify as a "reader"

- Increase book ownership
- Enhance enjoyment of reading
- Involve students in the book-creation process



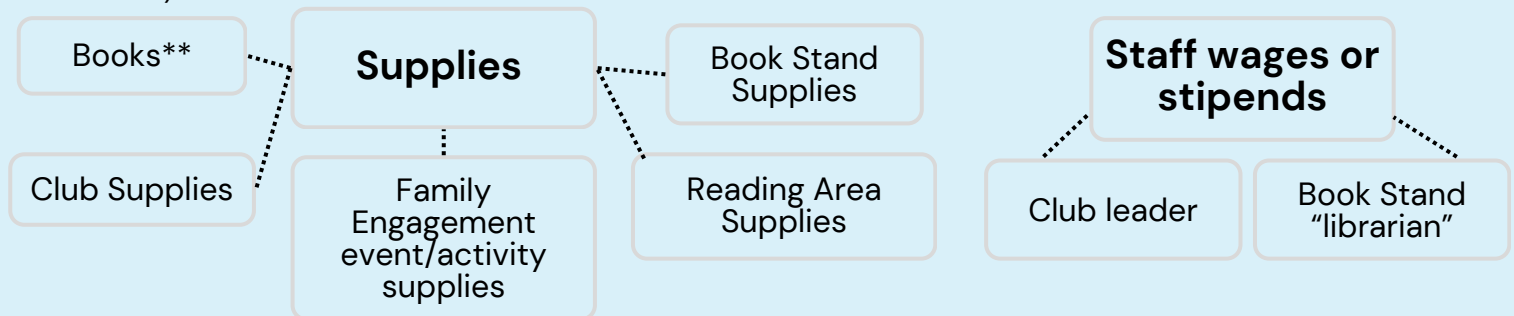
2

Promote Shared Reading Environments

- Boost the frequency of shared reading sessions between staff and students during summer programming
- Foster more shared reading experiences within families
- Increase community awareness of the benefit of shared reading for literacy development

***Beyond School Bells will make an initial purchase of pre-selected books through our partners which will be delivered to you!*

How you can use your Summer of Reading Exploration Budget



Pilot Evaluation Structure

- Participation in Pilot Project "Research and Development" Zoom Meetings
- Complete Youth Reading Tracking Sheets
 - Choose from several provided templates
 - We promise- it will be easy and fun!
- Potential Site Visits
- Short parent survey during at Family Engagement activity/event
- At end of project, complete Narrative Report (due September 20)
 - Here's where you will provide important feedback- what worked well? What didn't? What changes would lead to a better experience for youth, staff, or families?



Choose ONE Pilot project (Options 1-4)

Pilot Option 1



"Free to Read"
Program Book Stand
and Reading Area

Create a space where young people can find high-interest, highly engaging books to enjoy during program time OR take with them to read at home. Beyond School Bells will provide you with a curated assortment of books through our partners Unite for Literacy and Linked2Literacy. Use funds to create a reading area: you can purchase additional books, a book stand, cozy bean bag chairs and a rug. You can also use funds to pay a high school student to ensure the bookstand is stocked throughout the summer. Receive guidance from our partners sharing easy ways to integrate your Book Stand into programming time as well as to support young people's at home reading.

Pilot Option 2



Develop and
Implement a
Photography for
Books Club

Building on existing curriculum through Nebraska Extension, develop and implement a club that brings together photography skills and books. Unite for Literacy publishes books by local authors for kids age 0-8. In this club, young people will learn about how to take good pictures and have opportunities to connect with how photos are used in Unite for Literacy's books. Many photos taken will be added to Unite for Literacy's bank of photos which could end up in a published book one day! Those participating in this project will receive an outline of suggested activities and a suggested club structure.

Pilot Option 3



Develop & Implement
a Reading, Writing, &
Movement
Connection Club

Calling programming innovators and creative minds! We want your help to develop a Literacy Club, Afterschool-style! Work with Beyond School Bells and partners to develop and implement a summer club where young people can make the connection between reading, writing, and movement in fun and engaging ways. You'll receive an outline of suggested activities and a suggested club structure.

Pilot Option 4



Your innovative
Literacy
programming idea!

Do you have an innovative literacy focused idea you want to try this summer? Share your idea with us and we might be able to help support it!



All pilots include a
Family Engagement
activity or event

Find fun ways to connect families to your Summer of Exploration project and promote shared reading and book ownership with families.

Question? Contact Stephanie Vadnais
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