Summer of Reading Exploration

Literacy Pilot Project Application

This document serves as the application template for the Summer 2025 “Summer of Reading Exploration” Literacy Pilot Project funded through Beyond School Bells, a program of Nebraska Children and Families Foundation. For more information about the pilot projects, see our website: [Summer of Reading Exploration.](https://beyondschoolbells.org/summer2025/summer-of-reading-exploration-literacy-pilot-project-mini-grants.html) Send completed applications to Stephanie Vadnais, svadnais@nebraskachildren.org.

The goals and objectives of this project are as follows:

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| **Goals and Objectives** |
| **Goal 1: Encourage more students to identify as a “reader”** |
| *Objectives* |
| 1.1. Increase book ownership |
| 1.2. Enhance enjoyment of reading |
| 1.3. Involve students in the book-creation process |
| **Goal 2: Promote Shared Reading Environments** |
| *Objectives* |
| 2.1. Boost the frequency of shared reading sessions between staff and students during summer programming |
| 2.2. Foster more shared reading experiences within families |
| 2.3. Increase community awareness of the benefits of shared reading for literacy development |

**To complete the application, fill out below sections:**

* Program Information
* Proposed Total Budget
* Description of proposed pilot project (Choose **One** from Options 1-4)
* Description of proposed family engagement event or activity (required for all pilot projects)
* Proposed Budget

# Program Information

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| Director Name(s): | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Director email: | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Additional contacts to be included in communication: | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Program Name: | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Community/District (ex. Alliance): | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Who will lead your literacy pilot? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Approximately how many students will be enrolled in your summer program grades K-2? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Approximately how many students will be enrolled in your summer program grades 3-5? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Approximately how many students will be enrolled in your summer program grades 6-8? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Approximately what percentage of families in your program speak Spanish as a primary language at home? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Approximately how many program families have younger children (Ages 0-5) at home? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| What literacy programming have you included in your program in the past? How did it go? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Approximately how many books do you have on site that can be accessed by young people in your program? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| Last year during your summer program, how many days a week did young people spend time reading? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| How is your program currently partnering with your school district’s literacy efforts? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| How is your program currently partnering with your local library? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| How many literacy-focused family engagement activities has your program offered in the last year? | Click or tap here to enter text. |

**Total Proposed Budget (Up to $2500) you are applying for:** **Click or tap here to enter text.**

To support the cost of Summer of Reading Exploration projects, this mini grant is offered to support programming costs, supply, and staffing costs associated with your pilot project. **Choose one pilot project from the four options provided and complete the narrative section for the one you have selected.** *Note that a Family Engagement Activity or Event is required with all pilot projects.*

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| **PILOT OPTION 1**  **If you are applying to have a “Free to Read” Book Stand and Reading Area, please describe your plans.** Include details for different components as applicable.   * How will you use your bookstand during the program? * How will you promote kids taking books home during your program? * Partnerships * Subjects, Series, and authors of books that will be of high interest to your students * Who will be in charge of stocking and maintaining the book stand? * Where will your book stand be located? * Who will have access to the book stand and when? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **PILOT OPTION 2**  **If you are applying to have a “Photography for Books Club,” please describe your plans.** Include details for different components as applicable.   * Learning Goal(s) * Partnerships * Estimated number and grade of students. * Who will lead the club? * When will the club start / end? * Share about your capacity to document your process and share your feedback to Beyond School Bells. | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **PILOT OPTION 3**  **If you are applying for a Reading-Writing-Movement Connection Club, please describe your plans.** Include details for different components as applicable.   * Learning Goal(s) * Partnerships * Estimated number and grade of students. * Who will lead the club? * When will the club start / end? * Share about your capacity to document your process and share your feedback to Beyond School Bells. | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **PILOT OPTION 4**  **If you have another innovative literacy pilot project you want to propose, please describe your plans.**   * Detailed project description * Learning Goal(s) * Partnerships * If a club, estimated number and grade of students. * Who will lead the club/project? * When will the club/project start / end? | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **REQUIRED FOR ALL PILOTS:**  **Please describe your plans for a Family Engagement event or activity.** Include details for different components as applicable.   * Description of event or activity * Connection to pilot project * Estimated number of families you hope to engage * Partnerships | Click or tap here to enter text. |
| **Proposed Budget**  **NOTE**: Beyond School Bells will be able to provide each project with pre-selected books through our partners (Unite for Literacy and Linked2Literacy) that you do NOT need to budget for. You are welcome to purchase additional books with these funds.  Include details for different components as applicable for your project (ex. $ Student staff; $ Staff oversight, $ Club Supplies, $ Reading Area Supplies…).  **Up to $2,500** | $ Click or tap here to enter text. |

**Send completed applications to Stephanie Vadnais, svadnais@nebraskachildren.org.**