



The Las Lomas Read-a-Thon Starts Today!

How do kids participate?

1. Set a Daily Reading Goal

Each student sets a daily reading goal – how many minutes he/she will read each day during the event. Count *all* time spent reading outside of school, including being read to aloud and audiobooks.

Our school-wide goal is to read **400,000 minutes!** If we reach our collective school goal:

- Each Las Lomas class will be able to choose a new book for their classroom library.
- Hicklebee's will donate five special books that are not yet in print to the Las Lomas library.

2. Secure Sponsors

Using the Pledge Sheet, students are encouraged to secure sponsors – parents, relatives, neighbors – anyone willing to pledge money to support our school for each minute that a student reads. (For example, a pledge may be 5¢ per minute or a one-time pledge of a set amount.) Students are *not* required to secure sponsors to participate in the Read-A-Thon.

3. Track & Report Reading Time

Read! Read! Read! Each student tracks how many minutes he or she reads each day *at home* using the Calendar Tally Sheet.

NEW! This year we will tally results *weekly* so that students can watch their progress toward the school goal. Weekly minutes can be reported every Sunday, either **online** or using a paper form. Detailed reporting instructions are provided on the reporting form in this packet and online at www.laslomaspta.org/readathon

4. Collect Pledges

After collecting their money, each student places the money/checks and forms back into this "Read-A-Thon" envelope. We will begin collection of packets & money raised on Monday, Feb. 6th.

Envelopes must be returned to the classroom no later than Friday, Feb. 10th.

Questions? www.laslomaspta.org/readathon or dananunn@yahoo.com

What is the Read-A-Thon?

The Las Lomas Read-A-Thon is a school-wide program that encourages students and their families to read outside of school. Students collect pledges from sponsors for all minutes read at home during the Read-A-Thon. Funds raised by the program go to the PTA to support student enrichment activities, community building events and special needs such as new playground equipment. **The Read-A-Thon is the PTA's greatest source of funding.**

Why do we have it?

The PTA strongly believes in the promotion and support of literacy through positive reading environments, both in the classroom and at home. The Read-A-Thon provides a fun and engaging opportunity to encourage a passion for reading with students and families. The bottom line is that the Read-A-Thon encourages kids to read. **Our goal is to make reading fun!** Wouldn't you rather support reading instead of selling gift wrap or pizza vouchers?

When is the Read-A-Thon?

The Read-A-Thon begins Monday, January 9, 2012 and runs for four weeks until Sunday, February 5, 2012.

Included in this red Read-A-Thon packet:

- **Sponsor Pledge Sheet** to collect sponsors
- **Calendar Tally Sheet** to track reading time
- **Reading Resource List** to give you ideas to make reading at home fun!
- **Weekly Reporting Form** to submit minutes read at the end of each week.

Resources for Read-A-Thon 2012

Use the **Las Lomas Library** to its fullest. A great resource for our school:

- Students can check out **FIVE** books each week from the library during the Read-A-Thon
- Parents can come in and check out books from the library too!

Help **build the buzz** around the Las Lomas Read-A-Thon activities:

- Mystery characters--listen for clues each Wednesday to try to identify a mystery book character
- Kids' book reviews--look for students' reviews of their favorite books in the library
- Principal's Book Club--join Mrs. Sartor's Book Club in the month of January

Visit our Read-A-Thon sponsor **Hicklebee's** for a great selection of books and reading resources!

- Visit www.hicklebees.com

Read aloud to your child. Research shows it makes a difference - for both of you!

- Jim Trelease is an expert on the best read aloud books - www.trelease-on-reading.com
- The National Education Association 100 Best Books for children - www.nea.org/grants/13154.htm

Wondering **what books are good** for your child's age? Interests? Reading level?

- Try www.commonensemedia.org

The **Public Library** has many opportunities. A great resource for our community:

- The Menlo Park, Atherton and Woodside libraries have free audiobooks, eBooks, and family storytime. www.menloparklibrary.org.
- Take your child to a library performance - one below or look online for more
 - Randel McGee provides storytelling and beautiful papercuts. 01/09 at 4 pm (Atherton Library)
 - Dad & Me @ the Library - Puppet Art Theater Co. 01/10 at 7 pm (Woodside Library)

Reading Rockets (www.readingrockets.org) has many resources for parents:

- How to talk with your struggling reader
- What books are recommended for kids at different ages
- Family Guide with tips for helping children get the most out of reading

Interested in **expanding your home library** or recycling the books you have?

- PaperbackSwap.com - List books you'd like to swap, choose from over 5 million books to be mailed to you for free with no late fees or hidden charges. www.paperbackswap.com
- Book Pig is like Netflix for Books - Rent, read and return children's books for as low as \$1.50/book per month + membership www.bookpig.com

Try **downloading an audiobook** or ebook to listen to in the car or at home:

- www.smcl.org/en/ebooksaudiobooks (free through the Menlo Park library)
- www.audible.com (\$7.49/month for your first three months)
- www.audiobooks.com (\$19.95/month, first week free)

Consider reading one of these **books recommended by our librarian**:

Reading Magic: Why Reading Aloud to Our Children Will Change Their Lives Forever by Mem Fox
Valerie and Walter's Best Books for Children 2nd Ed
The New York Times Parent's Guide to the Best Books for Children: 3rd Edition Revised and Updated
1001 Children's Books You Must Read Before You Grow Up by Julia Eccleshare
Parents who Love Reading, Kids who Don't and 99 Ways to Get Kids to Love Reading by M. Leonhardt
7 Keys to Comprehension; How to Help Your Kids Read It and Get It by Susan Zimmerman



Weekly Reporting Form

This year we will tally results across the school **weekly** so that students see their progress over the month.

Our school-wide goal is to collectively read **400,000 minutes!**

Weekly Reporting Instructions

Weekly minutes can be reported at the end of each reading week during the Read-A-Thon, starting at 5pm on Sunday until 5pm on Monday. Each Tuesday morning the Read-A-Thon banner will be updated with the students' progress toward the goal.

Weekly minutes can be reported **online** or using a **paper form**.

Online Reporting Instructions: *(easier for our volunteers!)*

1. Go to www.laslomitaspta.org/readathon
2. Click on the "Report Weekly Minutes" link.
3. Enter the student information and minutes read for the week and click "Submit".

Paper Form Reporting Instructions:

4. Fill out the paper form below for the appropriate week.
5. Cut out the form and return it to your student's classroom teacher, or to the box in the office.

Note: Report the prior week's minutes by Monday at 5pm to be included in the school-wide banner update on Tuesday. Previous weeks' minutes may be submitted at any time and will be added to the school-wide reading total the following Tuesday.

WEEK 1 Jan. 9-15 Submit by Monday 1/16	WEEK 2 Jan. 16-22 Submit by Monday 1/23	WEEK 3 Jan. 23-29 Submit by Monday 1/30	WEEK 4 Jan. 30-Feb. 5 Submit by Monday 2/6
Student's Name	Student's Name	Student's Name	Student's Name
_____	_____	_____	_____
Teacher/Grade	Teacher/Grade	Teacher/Grade	Teacher/Grade
_____	_____	_____	_____
# Minutes Read Week 1 Jan. 9-15	# Minutes Read Week 2 Jan. 16-22	# Minutes Read Week 3 Jan. 23-29	# Minutes Read Week 4 Jan. 30-Feb. 5
_____	_____	_____	_____



Las Lomas Read-A-Thon

Sponsor Pledge Sheet

My Daily Reading Goal is _____ minutes per day from January 9-February 5, 2012

Sponsor's Name and phone number:	One time pledge*	Pledge per minute (in cents)*	Total Due (Total min. read x pledge OR one-time pledge)	Total Collected
1.			\$	\$
2.			\$	\$
3.			\$	\$
4.			\$	\$
5.			\$	\$
6.			\$	\$
7.			\$	\$
8.			\$	\$
9.			\$	\$
10.			\$	\$
<i>Optional: Reimbursement for the Read-A-Thon bookmark timer.</i>			\$ 2.00 (optional)	\$ 2.00 (optional)
- Make checks payable to: Las Lomas PTA. - Las Lomas PTA is a 501(c)(3) tax-exempt nonprofit organization affiliated with the 17th District California State PTA. Your donation (excluding payment of good such as the timer) is tax-deductible under federal and state laws. The Las Lomas PTA tax ID # is 94-6172072.		TOTAL COLLECTED	\$	\$

*Example ways to pledge:

1. Pledge Amount		Total Due
\$25.00	Flat, One time pledge	\$25.00
\$50.00	Flat, One time pledge	\$50.00
2. Pledge per Minute	30 minutes per day x 28 days	Total Due
2¢	840	\$16.80
5¢	840	\$42.00
10¢	840	\$84.00
25¢	840	\$210.00

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____

Parent Signature: _____

Return this form, along with your collected money, to your classroom the week of Feb 6-Feb 10.

Las Lomas Read-A-Thon

Calendar Tally Sheet

January 9th-February 5th, 2012

Name: _____ Grade: _____ Teacher: _____ My Daily Reading Goal: _____ Minutes

(Daily Goal is the the total time spent reading at home)

My Special Reading Time: _____

(When will you read?)

Directions:

1. Enter your daily reading minutes on your calendar
2. Add up your total weekly minutes at the end of each week.
3. Report weekly minutes each Sunday/Monday online (www.laslomaspta.org/readathon) or use the paper form in this packet.
4. Total your reading minutes for the month at the bottom of the page, and return to school by February 10th.

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	Sunday	Total Weekly Home Reading Minutes	Adult Initials
9-Jan Read-A-Thon Starts _____ (minutes)	10-Jan _____ (minutes)	11-Jan _____ (minutes)	12-Jan _____ (minutes)	13-Jan _____ (minutes)	14-Jan _____ (minutes)	15-Jan _____ (minutes)	REPORT ONLINE!	
16-Jan _____ (minutes)	17-Jan _____ (minutes)	18-Jan _____ (minutes)	19-Jan _____ (minutes)	20-Jan _____ (minutes)	21-Jan _____ (minutes)	22-Jan _____ (minutes)	REPORT ONLINE!	
23-Jan _____ (minutes)	24-Jan _____ (minutes)	25-Jan _____ (minutes)	26-Jan _____ (minutes)	27-Jan _____ (minutes)	28-Jan _____ (minutes)	29-Jan _____ (minutes)	REPORT ONLINE!	
30-Jan _____ (minutes)	31-Jan _____ (minutes)	1-Feb _____ (minutes)	2-Feb _____ (minutes)	3-Feb _____ (minutes)	4-Feb _____ (minutes)	5-Feb Read-A-Thon Ends _____ (minutes)	REPORT ONLINE!	
							Grand Total	

Enter TOTAL home reading minutes in this box:

Return this form to school no later than Friday, February 10th