



# Team London Library Volunteering Project: Supporting Reading Initiatives

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The Reading Agency

**THE**  
**READING**  
**AGENCY**

# What do we mean by volunteering?

- Volunteering is part of a professionally managed library service which:
- Adds capacity to help deliver your service
- Brings diverse skills and experience/specialist support to specific projects
- Offers enthusiasm and a fresh perspective
- Builds stronger community links
- Develops sustainability through a network of supporters

# Which activities can volunteers support?

- Reading Groups for children, young people & adults
- Summer Reading Challenge
- Six Book Challenge
- Author Events/Library Events
- Homework Clubs
- IT support
- Day to day delivery of the service



# Planning a reading group activity

- Volunteers can support library staff to plan a reading group programme
- Produce any materials needed in advance of the group meeting
- Help to publicise the group
- Ensure that books are ordered and available at the required time
- Set up the space, manage the refreshments



- Story Lab Assistant
  - Helping children during the Challenge
- Story Lab Reporters
  - Blogging and recording
- Team Leaders
  - Planning and supporting

# Planning to support the Challenges

- Six Book Challenge
- Supporting library staff running library tours/events for learners
- Supporting library staff when learners are returning/borrowing books
- Supporting library staff on visits to classes
- Supporting staff for celebration events

# Planning an Author Event

- Volunteers can support the choice of author by talking to reading groups
- Using their community links
- Supporting library staff to promote and publicise the event
- Offering practical support...ticketing/setting up/refreshments
- Selling books

# Evaluating your Reading Initiatives

- Volunteers can support the formal process by:
- Talking to participants
- Helping to fill-in evaluation forms
- Taking photographs
- Creating web content
- Using social media: Facebook, blogging, tweeting

