

# READING ROCKS

Sign up to be a *Reading Rocks* Volunteer this summer!

## Program Description

The Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools is looking for enthusiastic volunteers to read with children (pre-kindergarten through sixth grade) in Central Park, North Park, Crow-Arrowhead Park, Gorham Park and Pioneer Park this summer at **Reading Rocks**. This program is offered four days a week in conjunction with the free lunch program provided by School District 2.



## Who Should Volunteer?

- High school and college students and adults who enjoy working with children.
- Individuals who enjoy listening to children read aloud.

## What's the goal of Reading Rocks?

The goal of Reading Rocks is to provide a fun and structured environment for students to read in during the summer months. Statistics show that low-income students' reading skills slip backward by two to three months each summer when they are away from school. By providing summer reading opportunities in a convenient location, we hope to help reverse this trend.

## Scope of Responsibilities

- New volunteers must attend a brief training offered on Monday, June 12 or Wednesday, June 14, 12 noon to 1pm at the Lincoln Center.
- Volunteers should be prepared to volunteer from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m. at each Reading Rocks session.
- We ask that volunteers be able to volunteer at least 5 times during the summer.
- Each day starts with unloading and setting up the book boxes and tent. The session begins with a storyteller or special presenter who will read aloud to the group of children. Following that, volunteers will listen to individual children read and help them pick out a book and prize to take home.

## Summer Schedule

- Reading Rocks will run from **June 19<sup>th</sup> to July 27<sup>th</sup>, 2017**, 12 noon to 1 p.m.
  - Mondays: **Castle Rock Park** (West Wicks Lane)
  - Mondays: **Orchard Elementary** (120 Jackson Street)
  - Tuesdays & Thursdays: **Pioneer Park** (3<sup>rd</sup> Street West and Ave. D)
  - Tuesdays & Thursdays: **Central Park** (Central and 10<sup>th</sup> Street West)
  - Wednesdays: **Gorham Park** (Houle Drive and Miles Avenue)
  - Wednesdays: **North Park** (6<sup>th</sup> Ave. N. and North 21<sup>st</sup> Street)

## Benefits

Helping children succeed at reading is a highly rewarding experience. Volunteers will benefit as much as the children by seeing their enthusiasm.

***Policies: Animals:** Given insurance requirements and to ensure the safety of all participants, there shall be no animals, except medical aid animals, at any Education Foundation for Billings Public Schools event, including but not limited to Reading Rocks and Saturday Live.*

# READING ROCKS

## Volunteer Application Form

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip \_\_\_\_\_

Cell Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Birthdate\*: \_\_\_\_\_

\*Birthdate used for background check\*

**References:** Please choose your references from among the following: employer, minister, and/or colleague.

1. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

2. Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Phone: \_\_\_\_\_  
Relationship: \_\_\_\_\_

**Days/dates I would like to volunteer:**

Mondays at Orchard Elementary \_\_\_\_\_  
Mondays in Castle Rock Park \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesdays in Central Park \_\_\_\_\_  
Tuesdays in Pioneer Park \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesdays in Gorham Park \_\_\_\_\_  
Wednesdays in North Park \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursdays in Central Park \_\_\_\_\_  
Thursdays in Pioneer Park \_\_\_\_\_

**Applicant's Signature:**

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**Training Dates: June 12 or June 14 – 12 noon to 1pm at Lincoln Center.**

**Please circle** the date you plan to attend. Past volunteers do not need to attend training.

*Please return your Reading Rocks Volunteer Application to:*

**Julie Whitworth**

Education Foundation

415 North 30<sup>th</sup> Street

Billings, MT 59101

406-245-4133 (phone)

Email to: [whitworthj@billingsschools.org](mailto:whitworthj@billingsschools.org)

