

Authorless Children's Book Week Event Ideas



Host a Children's Book Week (May 4-10) event during your store's regularly-scheduled story time.

Here's how!

- Select books written/illustrated by Children's Book Week poster designers. Visit cafepress.com/bookweek for a list of poster designers from the last 96 years!
- Read aloud from this year's Children's Choice Book Awards (CCBA) finalists (to be announced at cbookawards.com on **March 17**) and previous years' [winners and finalists](#).
- Read from your favorite classic children's books.
- Offer book-themed snacks during story time. You can find some excellent ideas on the back of this year's Children's Book Week poster! Order yours at no cost beyond shipping [here](#).



Create a new event!

Here are some fun ideas for hosting a special Children's Book Week event:

- Create a community read-along.
- Throw a dress up party and encourage your guests to come as their favorite book characters.
- Create a scavenger hunt using book-themed clues.
- Host a book-themed craft party. You'll find excellent ideas [here](#).
- Host a pajama reading party. Encourage kids to come dressed in their pajamas, and serve bedtime snacks like cookies and milk.
- Create a special Children's Book Week book club.
- Celebrate May the 4th with a special Star Wars celebration and reading.
- Host a special Mother's Day read-along.
- Invite a local educator to read from their favorite books and share the joy and importance of reading.
- Host a children's book trivia event.
- Invite a local TV or radio personality to give a reading from their favorite children's books.
- Host a puppet party. Have patrons make a puppet based on their favorite book character. Then put on a puppet show!



- Invite a local scientist or science teacher to host story time featuring their favorite non-fiction picture books.
- Invite a local language teacher to host a bilingual story hour, featuring books from another language and/or culture.
- Host a book-to-movie night. Bring out the popcorn and screen your favorite film adaptation of a children’s book after reading aloud from the source.
- Using a [story starter](#), have children create a chain story. Go around the room with each child adding a sentence or two to the story!
- For additional book-specific party ideas, refer to the authorless event kits found at bookweekonline.com/activities

Incorporate local businesses and organizations into your celebrations.

In our effort to expand Children’s Book Week and instill a lifelong love of reading in every child, we encourage you to team up with other local businesses and organizations in your area:

- Partner with a local food establishment to provide snacks during your event.
- Team up with a children’s sports league or afterschool activity program.
- Partner with a local petting zoo or animal shelter to host an event.
- Co-host an event with your local YMCA, Boys and Girls Club, Boy or Girl Scout troop, Community Center, or any other organization with programming geared towards kids.
- Team up with the local weekend farmer’s market or nature center for an on-site, nature- inspired story time.
- Partner with a local bakery to provide treats for a literary tea.
- Co-host a multigenerational story time at your local community center or nursing home.
- Collaborate with your neighborhood park to lead a writing circle. Provide notebooks (or ‘Spy Journals’) for creative writing. Later, invite everyone to share their stories and observations.



Visit our [book activities board](#) on Pinterest for even more fun ideas!

MOST IMPORTANT: The event possibilities are endless. Once you decide which type of event to host, be sure to promote it through flyers (both at your store and at other public venues), signage, and your local media (check out our local media letter template [here](#)). Our Children’s Book Week Digital Toolkit, including logos, e-mail signatures, sample tweets, and more, is [here](#).