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***Worcester Public Library Launches Summer Reading Program
Kickoff Events Planned for June 23 & 24***

Worcester, MA – The Worcester Public Library 2017 Summer Reading program kicks off Friday, June 23 at all Library Branches and on Saturday, June 24 at the Main Library. The theme this year is “Build a Better World” - with loads of free programs being offered through August 19 at the Main Library and all Branches. Participants are eligible for prizes for reading and participating in programs. All ages are invited to sign up for summer reading at mywpl.org or at any library location.

“We know the importance of reading in preventing summer learning loss, and the library’s goal is to make sure all the kids and families of Worcester have the opportunity to discover the fun in reading, too,” said Cynthia Bermudez, Youth Services Coordinator. “This year’s theme allows us to provide great family-friendly programming, including building and engineering activities, creative printmaking, and events that explore ways to make the community and the world a better place. We hope families will build some fun into their summer by joining us for the Summer Reading Program!”

All branch locations will be hosting special kickoff celebrations with tons of fun activities focusing on making the world a better place. On Friday, June 23, the Great Brook Valley Branch will be holding their kickoff from 2:30 to 4:30 p.m.; the Frances Perkins Branch will be hosting a celebration from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m.; and the Burncoat, Goddard, Roosevelt, and Tatnuck Magnet Branches, will be holding their events from 4 to 6 p.m. There will be crafts, games, and fun activities at each location.

The Main Library will host a kickoff celebration on Saturday, June 24 from 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. The event will feature entertainment, games, crafts, glitter tattoos, and other family fun activities.

"This year we are anticipating a huge turnout for summer reading, and we are currently planning all sorts of great activities," said Geoffrey Dickinson, Head Librarian. "Summer reading helps keep children excited about reading, and the events and incentives help keep them interested and engaged. It's not just for the kids either. We have programs for all ages, so we encourage our entire community to participate."

The Summer Reading Program is a fun and exciting way to keep the community reading. Special programs and activities will be held all summer, and readers of all ages are encouraged to track their reading online.

The Adult Program will offer classes at the Main Library on improving yourself, your community, and your world, including learning about gardening, civic engagement, health and wellness, and computer and business classes.

For more information contact Linnea Sheldon, Community Relations and Communications Manager, at 508-799-1654 or lsheldon@mywpl.org. Check <http://www.mywpl.org/> for updates on the Summer Reading program, and for a complete listing of all programs, please visit: <http://www.mywpl.org/?q=classes-events>

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