**What is Beanstack?**

Beanstack is an online program that makes keeping track of individual and family reading plus fun activities super easy! Select the Beanstack bookmark on the internet browser at the service desk or visit [http://fairfieldpubliclibrary.beanstack.org](http://fairfieldpubliclibrary.beanstack.org).

Beanstack allows readers to:

* Keep track of all family members’ reading logs, progress, and rewards on one account.
* Complete fun bonus activities to earn extra points.

**What is the Fairfield Summer Challenge?**

We are challenging Fairfielders of all ages to reach our community goal of **1 million points**! Every minute read earns a patron 1 point, and fun activities will earn bonus points. By reading and completing activities, readers unlock virtual badges and are eligible for a variety of rewards. Readers can reach their **personal goal of 1,000 points** when they register for the following age-specific programs:

* Junior Summer Challenge (Babies, Toddlers, Preschool) *finish at 500 points
* Children’s Summer Challenge (entering grades K-5)
* Teen Summer Challenge (entering grades 6-12)
* Adult Summer Challenge (Adult, 18+)

**How old do you have to be to open your own Beanstack account?**

Readers joining the Teen Challenge and above can open their own account (entering grade 6 and above). Readers joining the Children’s or Junior Challenge should open an account with an Adult as their Account Creator.

**Important Dates**

**June 1:** All readers able to register for Beanstack

**June 14:** All readers able to log reading and activities, as well as receive prizes!

**June 20:** Kickoff event at Penfield Beach

**August 10:** Finale event at the Main Library, end of raffles and rewards for all ages, winners announced for all Grand Prize Ticket Drawings

**August 31:** End of logging of reading and activities
Frequently Asked Questions

My child is too young to care! Why should we join the summer challenge?
Our Junior Challenge focuses on early literacy and family engagement, which means you’ll earn fun rewards for the amazing work you’re already doing as caregivers. You’re also cementing the library and reading as a super fun family pastime! Additionally, since the adult and child are on the same account, you can add reading minutes for both Challenges!

I am a teen who likes to do my own thing, why would I do this challenge?
Our Teen Challenge focuses on getting to know what the Teen spaces at the Library have to offer! You’ll be entered to win great prizes for all the great reading you’re already doing! Come to an event at the library and review books for more chances to win!

I am an adult! Why would I need to join this challenge?!
Our Adult Challenge focuses on getting to know your library (and town!) as well as challenging the types of books you gravitate towards. As you read and complete activities, you get more chances to win great prizes and join in the community reading spirit!

How do I reach my 1,000 points goal?
You earn 1 point for each minute of reading. You earn 5 points for each book review. You also earn bonus points for different activities in each Challenge (see Activity Badges). Readers can completely customize their Challenge with a combination of reading, reviews, and activities!

How do we know how many minutes the town has read?
We will be posting progress updates toward our Community Goal weekly on our website and also displayed the running total at both libraries in the Children’s Department.

Can I log reading and activities on my mobile device?
Yes! Beanstack is mobile-friendly for use on your device’s internet browser. You can also log reading minutes for multiple family members at the same time by selecting “All Readers” in the drop down menu while logging.
Can I log reading on my smart speaker?

Yes, if you have an Alexa smart speaker, you can link your Beanstack account to log minutes.* If your family has multiple Alexa devices at home, you can use the same Beanstack account across devices or connect each device to a different account. The Beanstack Tracker for Alexa only logs reading time or titles.

1. Enable the skill by either saying “Alexa, enable Beanstack Tracker” or searching for “Beanstack tracker” in the Alexa Skill Store.
2. If you enable the skill by voice, access the skill from your Amazon Alexa App and Choose to Link Your Account.
3. Search for “Fairfield Public Library” when prompted.
4. Click “Log In To Your Account.”
5. When you receive the message “Beanstack Tracker has been successfully linked” you may close the app or website.
6. Using Alexa, Say “Alexa, open Beanstack Tracker” and follow the prompts to log minutes for Summer Reading! Because Beanstack allows families to track multiple readers in a single account, your whole family can use Alexa to log their minutes.

Do audiobooks count toward my reading minutes?

Yes! Read anything you can get your hands on! Any type of reading—audio, digital, print, or periodicals—counts toward your goal. We just require a title and the amount of time you read. If you just read the paper this morning, for example, you would type “New York Times” in the title field and enter your approximate time spent reading.

If my family is away for the summer, can we still participate?

Yes! Many of our challenges have digital and at-home activities. You can log your reading minutes and activities online, and collect prizes upon your return (while supplies last).

Can I have a printout of my reading log?

Yes! Visit Reading Log in the Toolbar, and select the Print button (will not print book covers). The option to print is found only when a patron is logged in, not when staff is logged in.
Can I participate without an e-mail address?
Beanstack is an optional library service that requires you provide an e-mail address and phone number. You can use the library computers to update your Beanstack account, but you must have an e-mail address to participate. Please ask a librarian at any public service desk to help you open up a free email address.

Where did my book review go?
If you no longer see a review on your account, library staff has rejected your review. Book reviews must be at least 75 characters and be a thoughtful review of the material. If library staff has decided to reject your review, your points and review are deleted.

Does the Library provide book recommendations?
Of course! In addition to booklists that can be found in the library and on our website for all ages, each challenge has additional booklists that can be found under Recommendations on the toolbar.

Is my personal information secure?
Beanstack follows generally accepted industry security standards to safeguard and help prevent unauthorized access, maintain data security and correctly use your personally identifiable information. Please visit the Privacy Policy link of the Beanstack site for more information.

What are the in-house activities at the Library?
There are in-house activities for all ages at both the Main and Woods Libraries. The Junior and Children’s Challenges have library catalog hunts, weekly art exploration, weekly discovery table, and more! The Teen Challenge has a weekly QR scavenger hunt in the Teen spaces. The Adult Challenge has “Explore Your Library” hunt codes hidden in various collections.

What are the weekly raffle drawings?
Teen and Adult are both offering a weekly raffle drawing for book or materials review. The Teen Challenge will give teens a chance to win a $25 gift card to a local food spot each week; the Adult Challenge will give adults a chance to win a bag of Advanced Reader Copies and a gift card to a local sponsor (i.e. AR Workshop).
**What are Tickets and how do I spend them?**

In the Junior, Children’s, and Teen Challenges, tickets are earned for each badge that is unlocked (see the Ticket icon on the badges where you earn Tickets). You can spend your tickets by visiting Ticket Drawings tab. Each badge earns 1 Ticket except for:

- Bonus levels
- Book review badges
- Event badges (Junior and Children’s)

*See individual challenges for Ticket information.

In the Adult Challenge, each badge that is unlocked earns an entry into the Grand Prize, but there are no “tickets” to spend.

**What are the Grand Prize Ticket Drawings?**

All age levels have 3 Grand Prize Ticket Drawings that will be pulled on August 10.

* Junior Summer Challenge (Babies, Toddlers, Preschool) *finish at 500 points
  1. Gymnastics Classes at the Sportsplex
  2. Autographed Books
  3. My First Coding Kit (courtesy of NASA @ My Library)

* Children’s Summer Challenge (entering grades K-5)
  1. Adventure Park at the Discovery Museum Family Pack
  2. Autographed Books
  3. Astronaut Survival Kit

* Teen Summer Challenge (entering grades 6-12)
  1. Airpods
  2. Custom Converse Sneakers
  3. Oculus All-in-One Virtual Reality Headset

* Adult Summer Challenge (Adult, 18+)
  3 - $50 Visa Gift Card