## The Summer Reading Challenge: Volunteer Role Description

### What is the role about?
The Big Friendly Read is this year’s national Summer Reading Challenge that runs during the summer holiday. Children of all ages are encouraged to read six books. All children taking part receive a certificate and a medal when they complete the challenge. You will be working with children and their parents and carers, encouraging them to join the challenge and talking to them about the books they have been reading.

### What will it involve?
- Joining children to the Summer Reading Challenge.
- Talking with children about the books they have been reading and encouraging them to share their views and ideas.
- Handing out reading rewards including stickers and medals.
- Helping children to have fun and enjoy the Summer Reading Challenge.
- Encouraging children to read for pleasure.
- Assisting with administration, e.g. registration membership, filing.
- Assisting with other library duties when time allows.
- Helping customers by referring enquiries to library staff.

### What will you get from volunteering?
- Valuable work experience and new skills, good for the CV.
- Confidence in talking to children and adults.
- Pleasure of encouraging children to enjoy reading.
- The opportunity to make a positive contribution to the community.

### What skills and experience do you need?
- A good team worker, able to work with library staff and other volunteers.
- Reliable, well organised and calm under pressure.
- Enthusiastic about encouraging children to read.
- Able to communicate with customers of all ages including parents.
- Able to talk to children about the books they have been reading.
- Friendly and approachable.
- Committed to helping libraries and our customers.

### How much time would you be asked to contribute?
To be agreed, but a minimum of 7 sessions from **Saturday 16th July to Saturday 3rd September**. Sessions generally last 3 hours. Times to be arranged with the Library Supervisor.

### What training and support will you receive?
You will be invited to a training session at your placement library in July. You will be sent a Welcome Pack and links to training online. There may be shadowing or just talking through what’s involved. You will have a named Supervisor and there will be ongoing support from local library staff.

### How do you apply? - Volunteers must be aged 14 and over

Closing date **Friday 3rd June 2016**

Essex County Council is committed to safeguarding and promoting the welfare of children and vulnerable adults, and expects all employees and volunteers to share this commitment.