

The
Book 'Em
Club

A Reading Club
at WMMS
since 1999



A Brief History

- The Book 'Em Club began in the fall of 1999 as a project funded by a grant from the Center for School Leadership at James Madison University. The goals of the project were identified as:
 1. increasing the amount of time members spend reading;
 2. increasing parental and community involvement in the school.

Why Is It Important?

- Research says that students who read more will probably read better, more smoothly, and with more comprehension. This is called “The Matthew Effect.”
- The Book ‘Em Club is designed to use prizes, points, high interest reading material, and mentors to motivate middle school students to read for pleasure after school.

How Is The Club Set Up?

The Club has four main components:

1. A club setting...Students meet twice a week after school. They sign-in, meet their mentor, read with their mentor, and have a snack. There are periodic field trips together after school.
2. A mentee-mentor support system...There is a high school student or adult who reads with the student and who gets to know them.
3. Incentive rewards...Students earn points for attendance and effort that are redeemed for tee-shirts and other small prizes that are donated by area businesses.
4. Community involvement...The volunteers that work with the students and those who donate prizes and snacks support the club and our middle school students.

How Can You Help

There are many ways to contribute to the Book 'Em Club:

1. Volunteer to mentor for forty-five minutes once or twice a week.
2. Donate items for prizes or snacks.
3. Help with other fundraising efforts such as chaperoning at the Book 'Em-sponsored Fun Nights in February and March.
4. Call Dr. Smith at the school (985-5240) to learn more about supporting Book 'Em.