



**TRAIL
LIFE
USA**

Reading

The goal of this Trail Badge is reading as an enjoyable past time. You read as part of school, but reading is an enjoyable hobby too. If reading is challenging for you, please use audio books, electronic readers, or someone reading aloud to you. A book listened to can open exciting new doors just the same as one that is read.

Name _____

Book and Activity Selections: All books and activities must be preapproved as by the Trail Badge Mentor and your parents as not containing objectionable material. Otherwise, you are free to select books from any genre(s) you wish even if all of them are from the same genre or book series. You may also select specific books of the Bible. See guidelines in Literary Genres of the Bible section below.

Do one of the following book access requirements (1-3)

- ____1. Visit your local library and do the following:
 - ____a. Apply for a library card if you do not already have one.
 - ____b. Demonstrate how to locate books by one of your favorite authors or about an interesting subject, using the catalogue system.
 - ____c. Check out a book.
 - ____d. Reserve a book from your local library that is currently checked out.
 - ____e. Request a book from a different library branch.
- ____2. Using your preferred provider of downloadable books, demonstrate:
 - ____a. Searching for a book by author, title, and subject.
 - ____b. Purchasing or borrowing a downloadable book and loading it into your device.
- ____3. Using your preferred provider of audio books, demonstrate:
 - ____a. Searching for a book by author, title, and subject.
 - ____b. Purchasing or borrowing an audio book and listening to it.

Do the following core requirements (4-7)

- ____4. Discuss with your parents and Mentor how to evaluate if a book you are interested in is worthy of a read. Use the criteria discussed to evaluate your selections for this badge.
- ____5. Read six books that you are not reading for school or any other purpose or award. List the title and author of each for your Mentor (written or oral).
- ____6. Select one of the books read for requirement 5 and do one of the following reading comprehension activities.

- _____a. Do a written or oral book report for your Mentor that includes the title, author, and a brief plot summary.
 - _____b. Write a book review for your Mentor.
 - _____c. Lead a book discussion on that book with at least two others who have read it and your Mentor.
 - _____d. With prior approval of your Mentor and parents, participate in a group Bible study on the Book(s) of the Bible you read.
 - _____e. Create and give a presentation to your Mentor on the book you selected.
 - _____f. Demonstrate to your Mentor one or more techniques or activities central to the story in the book. (Example: How to use a sextant for *Carry On Mr. Bowditch*)
- _____7. Repeat requirement 6 with a second book read for requirement 5.

Do two of the following optional requirements from any topic (8-18)

Additional Reading Fun

- _____8. If approved by your Mentor and parents, see the movie made for one of the books you read and explain the similarities and differences between the book and the movie to your Mentor.
- _____9. **Write and illustrate a children’s book** for a child you know. After approval by the **child’s or children’s parents, and under an adult’s guidance, read the book to the child or children.**
- _____10. Just for fun, select any additional book that you are not reading for school or any other purpose or award and read it solely for your own enjoyment. List only the title and author of the book for your Mentor (written or oral).
- _____11. **With your parents’ and Mentor’s approval, select a new magazine that you would like to read.** Buy or borrow a copy and read two issues. Show them to your Mentor and describe one new thing you learned.

Careers and Authors

- _____12. Interview the librarian at your school or local library. Describe what you learned. See the *Sample Interview Questions* section below.
- _____13. Interview someone who has a career as an author, writer, illustrator, or publisher. Describe what you learned. See the *Sample Interview Questions* section below.
- _____14. Attend an author talk and book signing at a local bookstore or library. Keep notes. Describe what you learned. See the *Sample Interview Questions* section below.
- _____15. Send an email or note to an author of a book you have read, sharing your thoughts about the book.

Service

- _____16. Host a book drive to collect books to donate to a shelter, nursing home, or missionary or other organization. The announcement should tell people what types of books you are collecting and what age reader will receive them.
- _____17. **Under an adult's guidance, read several books to young children. Practice your delivery and voice inflections to make it more interesting.**
- _____18. **Under an adult's guidance, read a book to a senior citizen who may be having visual difficulties. Let the senior pick a book that interests him or her.**

Resources

Sample Interview Questions

This is a starter list of questions you might ask. You can use any of these, but be sure to come up with some questions that interest you.

- a. How did you become interested in books?
- b. How long have you worked at the library, or as an author?
- c. What are your favorite and least favorite parts of your profession?
- d. How did you get started?
- e. What type of education is required?
- f. What are the new technologies in book publishing and libraries?

Literary Genres of the Bible

In addition to being the Word of God, the Bible is also a collection of great literature worthy of being read by everyone. It uses a variety of genres or literary styles summarized below in four genres. For the shorter Minor Prophets and Epistles Books, select several so you have at least 20 – 30 chapters to read. Read from a Biblical translation that your parents and Mentor approve.

- **Narrative Writing and History** includes Genesis, Exodus, Numbers, Joshua, Judges, 1 & 2 Samuel, 1 & 2 Kings, 1 & 2 Chronicles, Ruth, Ezra, Nehemiah, Daniel, Jonah, Haggai, some of the Prophetic writings, the Gospels, and Acts.
- **Epistles** (New Testament) include the Letters of Paul (Romans to Philemon) and general letters (Hebrews to Jude).
- **Prophets and the Prophetic Writings** include the Major Prophets (Isaiah, Jeremiah, Lamentations, Ezekiel, and Daniel), the Minor Prophets (Hosea to Micah), and Revelation.
- **Wisdom Literature** includes Job, Psalms, Proverbs, Ecclesiastes, and Song of Solomon.

Trail Badge Mentor Signature

Date

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