

Putting Books in the Hands of Kids

The Greater Boston Jewish Coalition for Literacy (GBJCL), operating under the auspices of the Jewish Community Relations Council (JCRC), mobilizes the Jewish community to tutor elementary school children and help them discover the joy of reading. Through partnerships across Greater Boston, GBJCL engages volunteer tutors in school-based, one-to-one literacy tutoring, mentoring, book drives, and advocacy efforts in under-served communities. Members of our congregation currently volunteer as reading tutors in the East Somerville Community School and the Plympton Elementary School in Waltham. Both schools are eager to have new and gently used books for their students.

How You Can Help

Donate Gently Used Books that are suitable for grades K–6. Books may be fiction or nonfiction. Maybe you have books from the wish list on your bookshelves, ready for welcoming new hands. Books with themes of diversity are especially welcome, **but please, NO cookbooks, textbooks, or Judaica.**

Purchase and Donate a New Book from the Wish Lists. Teachers at the schools have kindly asked for the following choices . . .

- The librarian at the East Somerville Community School asks for
 - *I Survived the Shark Attacks of 1916* (graphix), by Lauren Tarshis
 - Any of the *Dog Man* books, by Dav Pilkey
 - *Wings of Fire* series books #11–15, by Tui. T. Sutherland
 - The Raina Telgemeier Collection Box Set (*Smile, Drama, Sisters, Ghosts, Guts*)
 - *Chester Van Chime Who Forgot How to Rhyme*, by Avery Monson
 - *The Door of No Return*, by Kwame Alexander
 - *The Dork Diaries*, by Rachel Renée Russell
 - Books from *The Bone Series*, by Jeff Smith
 - Spanish language versions of popular series:
 - *Diario de Greg (Diary of Wimpy Kid)* by Jeff Kinney
 - *Hombre de Perro (Dog Man)* by Dav Pilkey
 - *Diario de una Dork (Dork Diaries)* by Rachel Renée Russell
 - *Elephant and Piggie* by Mo Williams
 - Easy readers and early chapter books
- The fifth-grade literacy teacher asks for nonfiction. Many websites list suggestions for fifth grade/age 10 books to choose from.
- The sixth-grade math teacher asks for
 - *Lost and Found Cat: The True Story of Kunkush's Incredible Journey*, by Amy Shrodes and Doug Kintz
 - *The Lotus Seed*, by Sherry Garland
 - *Marianthe's Story: Painted Words & Spoken Memories*, by Aliki