



Montessori At Sandy Ford

Read-A-Thon School Fundraiser

December 18, 2020-January 15, 2021

Dear MSF Families,

Our seventh annual Read-A-Thon fundraiser gets underway this week! **This is our major school fundraiser.** Last year's Read-A-Thon raised over \$16,000, which was used to add a sidewalk to the pavilion, parking lines in the lot, and gutters on the pavilion. 57 students participated, raising an average of over \$281 each. More importantly, it's really good for our kids! This school-wide fundraising event is unique in that the **children take ownership of and pride in it. Please help your child set and achieve their goals.** They'll benefit greatly from the fulfillment of participating, contributing and succeeding.

Our students' ages vary greatly, and even the youngest contribute! Last year, average minutes read per day, over the 29-day period, ranged from 3 minutes to 3.5 hours. It's ALL GREAT and every minute helps the students and the school. Students especially love the "Read-In" dinner event and optional sleepover.

Most students participate by gathering sponsors and logging their reading minutes. Others participate via the OPT OUT form and a donation. Both types of participation are greatly appreciated!

This year's money raised will go towards expanding our playground and the fencing around it, adding a water fountain and sink, and depending on how much we raise, adding one or two raised garden beds.

Here's How It Works

✓Now-Jan 15

Gather pledges from sponsors using your Sponsorship Form and a GoFundMe page

✓Dec 18-Jan 15

Read! Log minutes into your Minute Recording Sheet daily

✓Jan 16-24

Collect pledges from sponsors

✓Jan 25

Return your Minute Recording Sheet, your Sponsorship Form and your collected money to school in the provided Collection Envelope (to be picked up from MSF in January).

Inside This Packet

✓ Sponsorship Form & Script

✓ Rules

✓ Reasonable Goals

✓ Recognition & Awards

✓ Minute Recording Sheet

✓ Evening/Sleepover "Read-In" Information

✓ OPT OUT Form

Pick Up From MSF

✓ Sponsorship Collection Envelope (in January)

Read-A-Thon Rules

- Sponsorship Forms are used to track your sponsors and how much they have pledged to donate.
- The Minute Recording Sheet must be used to keep track of how many minutes you read each day.
- What if I miss a day? You can make up for missed days by reading extra the next day. We recommend you try to read each day though, to make achieving your goal easier.
- Parents must initial the Minute Recording Sheet each day to confirm that their child read all their logged minutes.
- Please don't guess minutes. Please look at the clock or use a timer or stopwatch to clock your minutes.

What Minutes Count?

- Reading before and after school counts. Even if you're at school, in early-care or after-care, those minutes count. Reading while in school between 8:30 AM 3:00 PM doesn't count, with the exception of reading during playtime – which does count.
- Reading before the official of the Read-A-Thon does **NOT** count.
- Being read to by other people counts as long as it isn't while in school.
- Listening to an audio book counts as long as it isn't while in school.
- Reading aloud to a pet counts.
- Reading aloud to other people counts. Read to the elderly in a nursing home. Or read with a friend. If you happen to read to someone who is also participating in the Read-A-Thon, it counts for **BOTH** of you!
- Reading under the bed covers, with a flashlight counts (but only if it's ok with your parents).

How Long Should Students Read?

Below are reasonable reading goals per day, based on age, but please set your own goals:

Level	Minutes per Day	Minutes over the entire 29-day Read-A-Thon
Early Childhood	10-15 minutes	290 – 435 minutes
Elementary	20-30 minutes	580 – 870 minutes
Junior/Middle:	30-60 minutes	870 – 1740 minutes

Why Should Students Participate?

This is a unique school fundraiser in that the **students** are the major players! They take pride and ownership in being able to raise money for their school, gathering pledges and achieving goals. Many discover a love of reading in their spare time and like to read in the car to/from school. We will support and encourage them whole-heartedly in this community endeavor. We'll recognize all students who participate, whether by reading or by the OPT OUT form, with a certificate showing their minutes read and dollars raised (if applicable), and we will celebrate our efforts upon completion.

Recognition & Awards

Individuals:

We'll recognize individuals in every classroom for the following achievements: most minutes, most money, most sponsors. Last year's winners were:

Classroom	Most Minutes	Most Money	Most Sponsors
EC Yellow	TJ Deal (1380)	Nalakai Vogel(\$1314)	Nalakai Vogel (11)
EC Green	Connor Kiefer (1160)	Noah Winchester(\$751)	Rhiley Johnson(28)
Elementary	Lu Whitener (3325)	Tali Lemke (\$632)	Tali Lemke (11)
Junior	Legacy Byrd (3550)	Margaret Erikson (\$973)	Brayton Hillen (8)

Classrooms:

There are two special classroom awards:

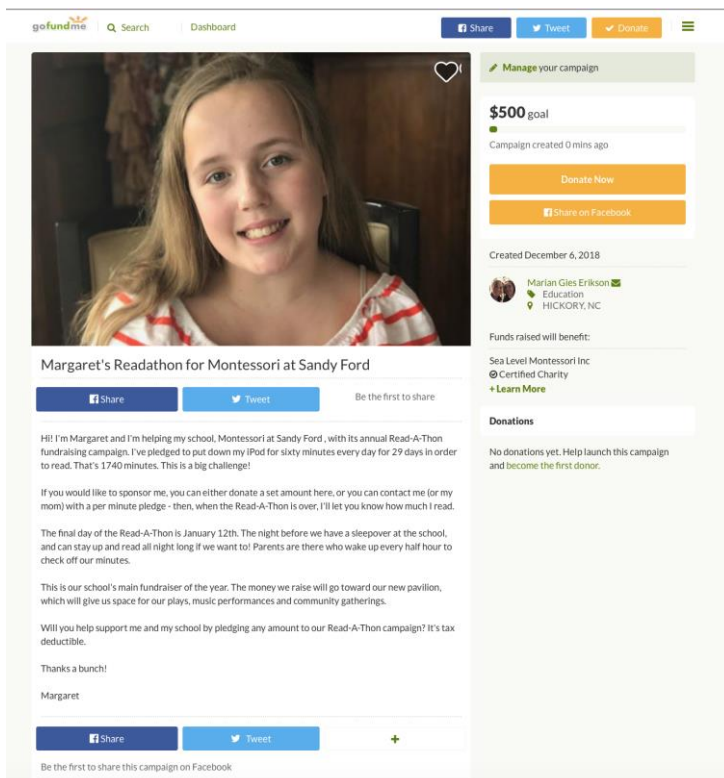
- \$100 to the class raising the most money
- \$100 to the class gathering the most sponsors

The winning classes get to decide how to spend \$100 of the funds raised! It can be spent in their classroom, or in/related to the school.



Montessori At Sandy Ford Read-A-Thon Crowdfunding Sample

GoFundMe is a crowdfunding site, and one of the easiest was to get sponsorships and donations if you have family and friends out of town who may like to support your child's reading efforts. It's free to create a fundraiser, and they take a small transaction fee of 2.9% plus \$0.30 per donation. See the details below and create your own GoFundMe page.



Simply go to GoFundMe.com and it walks you through the process and takes only a few minutes. Then share on Facebook or social media. It's that easy!

***** Note:** when setting it up, select that you're raising money for a non-profit. It asks you to select the charity, and you **choose "Montessori at Sandy Ford"**. It may show as "Sea Level Montessori", which is the official name of MSF's 501c3 charity.

Here's a sample script:

Hi! I'm Margaret and I'm helping my school, Montessori at Sandy Ford, with its annual Read-A-Thon fundraising campaign. I've pledged to put down my devices for an hour and a half every day for 29 days in order to read. That's 2610 minutes. This is a big challenge!

If you would like to sponsor me, you can either donate a set amount here, or you can contact me (or my mom) with a per minute pledge - then, when the Read-A-Thon is over, I'll let you know how much I read.

The Read-A-Thon ends on a Saturday, and the night before we have a dinner and sleepover at the school and can stay up and read all night long if we want to! Teachers and parents are there who stay awake to check off our minutes every half hour.

This is our school's main fundraiser of the year. The money we raise will go towards our playground and the fencing around it, adding a water fountain and sink out there, and depending on how much we raise, adding one or two raised garden beds.

Will you help support me and my school by pledging any amount to our Read-A-Thon campaign? It's tax deductible.

Thanks a bunch!
Margaret



Montessori At Sandy Ford

Read-A-Thon

Minute Recording Sheet

STUDENT NAME: _____

MY GOAL IS TO READ _____ TOTAL MINUTES IN 29 DAYS! (_____ Minutes/Day * 29 days)

BEGIN READING ON SATURDAY, DECEMBER 18th, 2020

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY	Sub-total
					Dec. 18 Minutes: _____ Teacher & Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 19 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	
Dec. 20 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 21 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 22 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 23 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 24 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 25 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 26 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	
Dec. 27 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 28 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 29 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 30 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Dec. 31 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 1 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 2 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	
Jan. 3 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 4 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 5 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 6 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 7 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 8 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 9 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	
Jan. 10 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 11 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 12 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 13 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 14 Minutes: _____ Parent Initials: _____	Jan. 15 Minutes: _____ Teacher & Parent Initials: _____		
Grand Total:							

Reasonable reading goals per day, based on age:

Level	Minutes per Day	Minutes over the entire 29-day Read-A-Thon
Early Childhood	10-15 minutes	290 - 435 minutes
Elementary	20-30 minutes	580 - 870 minutes
Junior/Middle:	30-60 minutes	870 - 1740 minutes

To be submitted Monday, January 18th, 2021

Actual Reading Time: _____ minutes in 29 days!

Total Dollars Raised: _____

Parent Signature: _____



Montessori At Sandy Ford
Read-A-Thon
OPT OUT FORM

STUDENT NAME: _____

OPT OUT DONATION AMOUNT: _____

Dear MSF Read-A-Thon Fundraising Committee,

I am donating to express my appreciation for having nothing to do with the Read-A-Thon! Hallelujah!

I appreciate the fundraising efforts of others and appreciate tuition costs being kept low as a result. I understand that students raised an average of \$280 each in last year's Read-A-Thon, and I want to do my part. I understand that no amount is too small, and we're happy to help make this year's fundraiser successful. While I am in no way obligated to do anything, I'm thrilled to contribute in lieu of participating!

Thank you for the OPT OUT option!

If "Opting Out" please return this form with check payable to "MSF Fundraising"