

## For the Love of Reading



### PROMO COPY

This February, share the love of reading with fun activities and book recommendations with our Valentine's Day-inspired challenge, "For the Love of Reading." We've included a list of our favorite reads here at Beanstack for all ages! Share our book recommendations or add your own to encourage your patrons and students to read all month long.

### CHALLENGE DESCRIPTION

This month, share the love of reading with fun activities and book recommendations. Check out some of our favorite reads for all ages here at Beanstack! Log your reading and complete activities to earn badges all month long.

### STRUCTURE

- 1 Registration Badge**
- 1 Completion Badge**
- 10 Minutes Logging Badges**
- 5 Activity Badges**



## ACTIVITY BADGES

### Activity Badge Title:

1. What's in a Name?

### Badge Description

Valentine's Day has its origins in ancient Rome, where one legend suggests that a priest named Valentine helped to marry young couples in secret. Later, the holiday became romanticized by the writings of Shakespeare and Chaucer. During this time, the tradition of sharing homemade paper cards began, eventually leading to the familiar pink, red, and sparkly valentines we know today.

### Activity

- Grab your favorite craft supplies (think construction paper, colored pencils, glue, glitter, etc.) and create your own valentine! Use scissors to cut out paper hearts, write a poem to someone you're grateful for, or just create something fun and sparkly.

### **Activity Badge Title:**

2. A Rose by Any Other Name

### **Badge Description**

During the 17th century in Europe, King Charles II of Sweden created "the language of flowers." Different flowers took on different meanings and led to the tradition of giving flowers on Valentine's Day. The rose, associated with the Greek goddess Aphrodite, became the ultimate symbol of love on this day.

### **Activity**

- Personification means giving human characteristics to something nonhuman. Write a short poem from the perspective of a flower! What kind of flower are you? What do you smell like? Where are you? Are you around other flowers like you, or in a beautiful mixed bouquet? What is your favorite thing to do? Use your imagination and have fun!

### **Activity Badge Title:**

3. True Beauty

### **Badge Description**

Celebrate the love you have for yourself! Think about all of the wonderful things you have to offer, and know that even if you have a bad day, you're still worthy of love. Just as you would show someone else kindness, be sure to show yourself kindness too.

### **Activity**

- It's easy to get down on ourselves when we make a mistake or feel upset. Make a list of 10 things you love about yourself. Include personality traits (like "I am kind"), things you're good at (like "I'm good at baking"), or things you're proud of (like "I read 10 books last year!"). Keep your list somewhere you can see it in case you ever need a reminder of why you're AWESOME.

### Activity Badge Title:

4. Star-Crossed

### Badge Description

Take a moment to think about the people in your life who you love and who love you. Express your gratitude to those you care about any day of the year. Love really does make the world go round!

### Activity

- Decorate a box or jar, fill it with love notes for someone you care about, and give the box to that person. Every time they need a little extra love, they can pick out a note made especially for them, from you! Include things you are grateful for or love about this person, like “My favorite memory of you is\_\_\_\_\_” or “I’m proud of you because\_\_\_\_\_.”

### Activity Badge Title:

5. Books We Love

### Badge Description

Check out some of Beanstack’s favorite book recommendations for all ages!

### 0-6 years old

1. *I'll Meet You in Your Dreams* by Jessica Young
2. *Bird Boy* by Matthew Burgess
3. *The Elephants Come Home: A True Story of Seven Elephants, Two People, and One Extraordinary Friendship* by Kim Tomsic
4. *The Koala Who Could* by Rachel Bright
5. *Where Three Oceans Meet* by Rajani LaRocca
6. *Jayden's Impossible Garden* by Mélina Mangal
7. *I Talk Like a River* by Jordan Scott
8. *Salma the Syrian Chef* by Danny Ramadan
9. *Gracias / Thanks* by Pat Mora
10. *I Am Every Good Thing* by Derrick Barnes
11. *Besos For Baby: A Little Book of Kisses* by Jen Arena
12. *This Plus That: Life's Little Equations* by Amy Krouse Rosenthal

### **7-12 years old**

1. *African Icons: Ten People Who Shaped History* by Tracey Baptiste
2. *A Whale of the Wild* by Rosanne Parry
3. *A Soft Place to Land* by Janae Marks
4. *Across the Risen Sea* by Bren MacDibble
5. *Show Me a Sign* by Ann Clare LeZotte
6. *A Bowl Full of Peace* by Caren Stelson
7. *Any Day with You* by Mae Respicio
8. *Thanku: Poems of Gratitude* by Miranda Paul
9. *White Bird: A Wonder Story* by R.J. Palacio
10. *The Undefeated* by Kwame Alexander
11. *Free Lunch* by Rex Ogle
12. *The Bridge Home* by Padma Venkatraman

### **13-18 years old**

1. *Sadie* by Courtney Summers
2. *Dominicana* by Angie Cruz (16+)
3. *Buried Beneath the Baobab Tree* by Adaobi Tricia Nwaubani
4. *The Age of Darkness Trilogy* by Katy Rose Pool
  - a. *There Will Come a Darkness*
  - b. *As the Shadow Rises*
  - c. *Into the Dying Light*
5. *Blood Water Paint* by Joy McCullough
6. *Infinite Hope: A Black Artist's Journey from World War II to Peace* by Ashley Bryan
7. *The Scar Boys* by Len Vlahos
8. *Children of Blood and Bone* by Tomi Adeyemi
9. *The Marrow Thieves* by Cherie Dimaline
10. *A Light in the Darkness: Janusz Korczak, His Orphans, And The Holocaust* by Albert Marrin
11. *The Unwanted: Stories of Syrian Refugees* by Don Brown
12. *Laura Dean Keeps Breaking Up With Me* by Mariko Tamaki

### **18+ years old**

1. *Tinderbox: The Untold Story of the Up Stairs Lounge Fire and the Rise of Gay Liberation* by Robert W. Fieseler
2. *How Long 'til Black Future Month?* by N.K. Jemisin

3. *Planet of Clay* by Samar Yazbek
4. *Milkman* by Anna Burns
5. *The Emissary* by Yoko Tawada
6. *The Mountains Sing* by Nguyễn Phan Quế Mai
7. *The Nickel Boys* by Colson Whitehead
8. *The Overstory* by Richard Powers
9. *The Arsonists' City* by Hala Alyan
10. *Shuggie Bain* by Douglas Stuart
11. *Know My Name* by Chanel Miller
12. *Tokyo Ueno Station* by Yu Miri

### Activities

- Which book did you pick to read? **(text box)**
- What is your favorite book of all time? **(text box)**
- What do you love most about reading? **(text box)**