

Baby:

- A board book (doing this three times)
- Jumbo crayons and a coloring book
- Balancing stone blocks
(https://www.amazon.com/dp/B08CT8HLQP/?coliid=I2IIHWV2WEGP84&colid=3R5Z1MT9FIVTF&psc=1&ref_=lv_ov_lig_dp_it)
- Playdough tools
(https://www.amazon.com/dp/B00SXBLKUM/?coliid=I1A9CJV2X3A7KJ&colid=3R5Z1MT9FIVTF&psc=1&ref_=lv_ov_lig_dp_it)

Kids

- Big hard cover non-fiction books (50 Adventures in the Fifty States)(Britannica All New Kids' Encyclopedia)
- Lego Creator 3-in-1 Safari Wildlife Tree House
- Games (Melissa & Doug Family Suspend, Catan Junior)
- 500 piece puzzle
- Building toy
(<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B01AS96JKC/?coliid=I3H134N9BARA4N&colid=3R5Z1MT9FIVTF&psc=1>)
- 500 piece puzzle
- Marble Run
(<https://www.amazon.com/dp/B07R92KFZR/?coliid=I1B8VD2OMN968&colid=3R5Z1MT9FIVTF&psc=1>)
- Gift cards to local businesses, like \$10 to an ice cream place

Teens

- Gift cards to local businesses paired with a Tails & Tales water bottle and 1970s themed deck of UNO, or 1000 piece puzzle, or a KLUTZ Make Your Own Mini Erasers kit, or a Lego Dots kit
(https://www.amazon.com/dp/B085K95GVP/?coliid=I3D6HBW7BNPVWR&colid=3R5Z1MT9FIVTF&psc=1&ref_=lv_ov_lig_dp_it)
- Exploding Kittens game

Last year we did some Razor scooters. It partnered well with our local police department's helmet handout program. Originally we planned for bikes but the scooters took proper sizing out of the mix.

One idea - if there is a local attraction (like a camp, water park, or the like) is asking if you could get free passes and offer them as runner-up prizes (or as part of the grand prize, depending on how awesome the attraction).

My thought is to offer an experience to the winner(s), as well as something physical.

As for grand prize ideas, you can do individually or combined:

- A year subscription to Highlights (or similar) Magazine and swag on the Library
- Free 4-6 "family" admission to Cedar Point (or similar) - (Think of having it to where the winner can bring a friend or two to enjoy the experience with!)
- STEM/STEAM kit
- "X" amount of new books (could be based on cost or number of books), cool kid bookshelf, thinking along the lines of a "Home Library Starter Kit"
- Outdoor playscape/gymnasium/swing set for the home (keep in mind if you have a large apartment housing community).
- Game system (XBox, etc), tablet, or a set of playaways

NOTE: I have not personally done any of these ideas for summer reading, but have thought of them as cool possibilities!

1) themed baskets

- theater
- garden
- art
- games
- adventure- zoo, museum, park tickets
- candy
- school supplies

2) Gift Cards

- Roblox
- Visa
- Amazon

3) Lego Kit

4) Telescope Kit

5) Bikes

6) Tablets

Before we had several smaller "grand" prizes that the kids could win. Each time they turned in a row of reading time, they got a raffle ticket and then at the end we drew names for the prizes. One year we had so many kids complain that they didn't like the prize that they won and it took us over an hour and a half to draw prizes, we realized that we needed to make it easier. We changed to three grand prizes and the kids could choose which prize that they wanted to put their raffle ticket towards (we had three different bins). Some of the things we have done are: A four pack of tickets to Michigan's Adventure, A four packet of tickets to the Air Zoo in Kalamazoo, a camping weekend at a local resort that included a tubing trip and golfing, a kids guitar, a karaoke machine, a kindle with a case. We have tried to do one trip type gift and then another that is an actual item. This year, we are doing a family membership to John Ball Zoo in Grand Rapids for a year. Our Friends group helps to pay for some of these larger prizes.

This is so much easier for us AND the patrons have loved this opportunity for a larger prize and that they can choose where to put their tickets.

We typically do 3-4 grand prizes including overnight trips to museums or amusement parks, yearly membership to zoos, or large items. Our grand prizes typically run in the \$300, \$200, and \$100 ranges. Everyone has a slip to enter to win a grand prize – kids and teens. Then we have less grand prizes in the \$50-100 range that they can choose from. They have a separate slip for these and choose which item they hope to win. These can be anything from day passes to zoos, concert tickets, or toys like Legos or sports equipment. We have separate items for kids and teens and have 3-4 of these for teens and 6-8 for kids.

Last year we only had gift cards from Meijer for our grand prizes. This year we still have a lot of gift cards but are also having some of the regular items excluding the overnight trip. Our grand prize is a \$300 Meijer gift card with a stuffed animal, 2nd place is a \$200 Meijer gift card with a stuffed animal, and 3rd and 4th place is a family year membership to John Ball and Binder Park Zoos. All of these excluding the stuffed animals were donated. Then for our less grand prizes we have some \$50 Meijer gift cards (donated) attached to a small toy or game, Legos, Animal games, Animal STEM kits, and more.

This year I am giving away a kite (shaped like a dragon with a long tail), a 16" Tiger plush toy, a Minecraft lego set, a storytelling based board game called Once Upon a Time, a Marvel comics themed puzzle, the 5th edition D&D Starter Set, and some gift cards from a local ice cream shop and mini-golf place (the last two are kind of our standard raffle prizes for all SRP giveaways).

In the past I used paper tickets, but this year we will be using Wandoo reader to manage the raffles. Completed reading log = one raffle entry

We usually include around 7 big prizes, completing the reading log earns participants a raffle ticket to put towards winning one of them. We don't keep them strictly theme related, just a variety of things some kid is likely to want. Some end up being more popular than others, of course, but there are always at least a few interested in each. This year, I believe we're getting a large stuffed tiger, a LEGO set, a \$25 gift card to a local ice cream shop, a starter set for D&D 5th edition, a dragon kite, a large puzzle, and...I forget the rest. We still use the tiny prizes too, we have enough sitting around from past years that it's easy. Kids still enjoy getting those, and only a few will get the big prizes, we wouldn't want to leave anyone out in the cold!

This year, kids returning their completed logs will put them into a drawing for one of 4-5 themed prize packs. So far, the themes are baseball, llamas, and wild animals. We'll use nylon drawstring bags and put in a book, stickers, craft supplies, etc. matching the theme of each bag.

Back in 2019, we had a lot of excitement and success with dance lessons and a tour of a local farm as grand prizes.

For the last couple years, I've been doing a grand prize drawing for all the teens that complete our summer reading challenge. We usually fill a book bag with newer books and/or arc's, candy, and a couple gift cards. Usually the cards are to the local pizza place, ice cream shop, Biggby, or Mcdonald's and have a \$10 value per card. The prize bags seem to be a hit. No complaints yet.

We have done gift cards to our local businesses as prizes before and will probably do so again! (food, bowling passes, movie tickets).

We also do a "library gift card" ...\$25.00 worth of books of their choice, which we buy from Ingram.

For teens, a grand prize was a "Night out on the Town" (4 movie passes, 4 dinner gift cards and \$20 gas card)

We like to give experiences. For example we have given a trip for a family on the Inland Seas boat. This year we'll also get a family pass to the butterfly house nearby It depends on what you have in your area, zoos, museums, etc.

We put names into a drawing for larger prizes, but we usually only have 3-4 of them. We have been using Visa gift cards. We also use Meijer & Walmart gift cards.

This year for younger kids I ordered some animal themed prizes from Amazon, stuff in the \$20 range. I got a Barbie Animal Rescue playset, a set of animal plushes that make sounds, and a couple backpacks that have stuffed animals strapped into them like baby carriers, and a dinosaur nightlamp. For tweens/teens I ordered a couple of unique items from Uncommon Goods, I ordered a twist-and-eat burrito holder bottle, a light-up cinema letterboard, and a create-your-own comic book kit. Uncommon Goods is great for teen prizes because Amazon doesn't really have a great "gifts for teens" section.