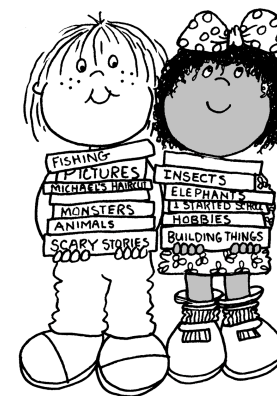


# 2011 Gift of Reading



To celebrate the holiday season, the Tecumseh District Library is coordinating its traditional "Gift of Reading" project. This endeavor provides the Tecumseh Service Club with new books for children and teens to add to the traditional Christmas baskets of food, clothing, and toys. Our community's generous participation in this project each year is always heartwarming, especially when one realizes that many children have never been given a book to call their very own. During the 2010 holiday season, donations of 208 new books and \$480.00 were received, and the library staff looks forward to a similar enthusiastic response to this year's "Gift of Reading".

## Area residents may participate in two ways:

- Purchase new children's books and/or teen paperbacks from your favorite bookstore and bring the unwrapped books to the library's Circulation Desk between Friday, November 25th, and Monday, December 12th. (Please do not drop them off in the bookdrops.)
- Send a tax-deductible check payable to the "Tecumseh Service Club" to the Tecumseh District Library, 215 North Ottawa Street, in care of "The Gift of Reading" by Monday, December 12th. Designated shoppers from the Service Club will use these donations to buy additional books for the project.

Beginning Thanksgiving weekend, the library staff will add your donated books to the Gift of Reading display near the Circulation Desk. In mid-December, the books will be delivered to the Tecumseh Service Club, whose volunteers will add the books to the Christmas baskets for distribution throughout the Tecumseh community.

## QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

### What kinds of books are best?

- **Brand new books with good bindings**  
Because these will be treasured Christmas gifts, "hand-me-down" or "gently used" donations will not be accepted!
- **Picture books**
  - Books with large print and vivid illustrations, by such authors and illustrators as Karen Beaumont, Jan Brett, John Butler, Eric Carle, Tomie De Paola, Margaret Hillert, Steven Kellogg, Mercer Mayer, Laura Numeroff, Patricia Polacco, Phyllis Root, Cynthia Rylant, Dr. Seuss, Rosemary Wells and Mo Willems
  - Books about Amelia Bedelia, Arthur, Babar, the Berenstain Bears, Clifford the Big Red Dog, Curious George, Fancy Nancy, Fly Guy, Franklin, Froggy, George and Martha, Madeline, Scaredy Squirrel, and Thomas the Tank Engine
  - Hidden picture series such as I Spy, Look-Alikes, and Where's Waldo?
  - Sturdy, colorful board books for toddlers
- **Juvenile and Tween fiction**
  - Books by popular children's authors, such as Fred Bowen, Betsy Byars, Matt Christopher, Beverly Cleary, Debbie Dadey, Kate DiCamillo, Dan Gutman, Will Hobbs, Gail Carson Levine, Lois Lowry, Mike Lupica, Gary Paulsen, Rick Riordan, and Jeff Stone
  - Popular series such the American Girls Collection, Beacon Street Girls, Boxcar Children, Candy Apple Books, Choose your own adventure, Dinosaur Cove, Geronimo Stilton, Hank the Cowdog, Hank Zipzer, Ivy + Bean, Jigsaw Jones, Katie Kazoo, Switcheroo!, Little House on the Prairie, Magic Tree House, Melvin Beederman, Superhero, Michigan Chillers, Nancy Drew and the Clue Crew, Ready, Freddy!, Time Spies, and Time Warp Trio
- **Juvenile non-fiction**
  - Books about animals, construction equipment, crafts, fairy tales, folklore, drawing, dinosaurs, nursery rhymes, people, science, space, trains, and trucks
  - Any book in the Eyewitness series
  - Poetry books by Jack Prelutsky and Shel Silverstein
  - Educational activity books, coloring books, pop-up books, lift-the-flap books
- **Teen paperbacks** with attractive covers, including the newest titles in popular romance, mystery, adventure, fantasy, and science fiction series by Avi, Meg Cabot, Ally Carter, Chris Crutcher, Christopher Paul Curtis, Sarah Dessen, Lois Duncan, Gail Giles, Erin Hunter, Patrick Jones, Gordon Korman, Chris Lynch, Stephanie Meyer, Garth Nix, Richard Peck, Tamora Pierce, Cynthia Rees, Darren Shan, Sara Shepard, Margaret Weis, and Scott Westerfeld. For more suggestions, visit YA Book at <http://www.yabookblogdirectry.blogspot.com>.

### Why should the books be donated unwrapped?

The Service Club members will look at each book and sort them into categories by age levels and subject areas. Then they will match the titles to the reading levels and interests of the children whose families are receiving Christmas baskets. Feel free to enclose a bookmark, note or card.

## OTHER WAYS TO HELP

- \* Help your children earn money towards the purchase of the gift books.
- \* Encourage your children to make your family's selections of titles to donate.
- \* Encourage your clubs and organizations to participate.
- \* Encourage your children's classes and PTO's to participate.