

THE PROGRAM

Prime Time Family Reading is a national program serving 6- to 10-year-old kids and their families. Participating families build early literacy skills, engage in critical thinking, and connect with each other through literature and discussion.

During each six-week session, 15-25 families gather once a week to share a meal, read stories together, and talk about the big ideas that are foundational to our society—like empathy, justice, and truth.

Featuring lively storytelling and conversation, these gatherings offer opportunities for families and young children to bond, find connection, think deeply, and have a lot of fun with books and reading.



HOST RESPONSIBILITIES

Host sites work in partnership with NJCH to bring Prime Time Family Reading to their communities, recruiting 15-25 families to participate, dedicating existing staff to the administration of the program, and running the weekly sessions.

NJCH provides training, assistance with program development, and funding to support program costs, including books, meals, giveaways, program team stipends, and other expense categories.

THE FUTURE

After launching a pilot program in 2025 with two library partners, NJCH plans to expand the program to several more communities throughout New Jersey in future years. Stay up-to-date on program developments and apply to host a future Prime Time Family Reading site on our website or by contacting NJCH program staff directly.

PRIME TIME FAMILY READING

OUR 2025 LIBRARY PARTNERS



To maximize attendance for its program, **North Bergen Free Public Library** will hold its Prime Time Reading events on site at Meadowview Village, a local low-income housing development.

The program's community focus is a strong fit for North Bergen, which already provides robust offerings including citizenship classes and career coaching for its large populations of non-English speakers and immigrants.



GLoucester COUNTY
LIBRARY SYSTEM

The **Gloucester County Library System** – **Greenwich Branch** will build on its high levels of youth engagement and strong relationships with local elementary and middle schools, a community food pantry, and local businesses, to power their program.

Its aim is for a third of participating families to be new to the library, encouraging further engagement with lifelong reading and learning.