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# Story buddies Overview

## Program Description

**Story Buddies: Little Buddies**

For ages 4-6. Children are paired with tweens to write and illustrate an original storybook. Together, Little Buddies and Big Buddies will use their imaginations and produce a keepsake that will become part of their life’s story.

**Story Buddies: Tween Volunteers**

For ages 10-12. Tweens are paired with children to write and illustrate an original storybook. Together, Little Buddies and Big Buddies will use their imaginations and produce a keepsake that will become part of their life’s story. We provide Big Buddy training and, upon completion, a certificate for volunteering.

First-time volunteers, please complete the Tween Volunteer Referral Form, available at gvpl.ca/tweenvolunteers.

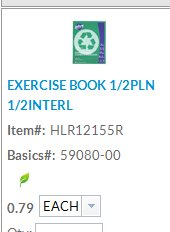
## Program Kit

A rotation schedule is provided in the Story Buddies kit which tells you where to send the kit once you’ve completed your program. Please send it along promptly.

Inside you’ll find: Master copies – use for photocopying; additional hand-outs to use in your program (if available); story starter cards and cubes; a list of picture books resources.

## Program Planning

1. This program will be planned in conjuction with your branch and the following portfolios: Middle Childhood & Tween Literacy and Satisfy Curiosity.
2. Add program to events according to [Programmer’s Guide – Story Buddies Events](file:///C:\Users\Sara\AppData\Local\Staff%20Instructions,%20FAQs%20and%20Guidelines\Events%20Software\Creating%20Events%20&%20Style%20Guide\Programmers%20Guide%20-%20Story%20Buddies%20Events.docx)
3. Program supplies and prop box will be sent to you prior to your program but all documents can be accessed here.
4. Review this document and content of Story Buddies kit
5. Order Hilroy booklets through Monks Office. Use your branch program supplies budget and order directly through your branch. Order Hilroy Item #HLR12155R.



## A few days prior to program

* Print [cover pages](file:///C:\Users\Sara\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\Cover%20for%20Story%20Buddies.pdf) for exercise book on white card stock. Trim each page to size using the paper cutter and the size guidelines on cover page. Glue the cover page or the exercise.
* Print [Training Manual for Tween Big Buddies](../Training%20Manual%20for%20Tween%20Big%20Buddies.pdf) (in colour) [Volunteer Certificate for Tweens](file:///C:\Users\Sara\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\1BWE0J3X\Volunteer%20certificate%20for%20Tweens.docx) (in colour), [Photo Release forms](file:///C:\Users\Sara\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\GVPL%20Photo%20release%20form%202013%20-%20Shortcut.lnk)
* Registration closes 1 day prior to the program. Verify enrollment and pair Little Buddies with Tween Volunteers.
* Call all Big and Little Buddies. Remind Tween Volunteers to complete and submit their referral form and emphasize that it must be filled out by a non-family member.

## After the Program

1. Add your comment and feedback to the [Feedback spreadsheet](file:///C:\Users\Sara\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\Feedback%20-%20Story%20Buddies.pub)
2. Forward the Story Buddies Kit to next branch.
3. Record name of tween volunteer and date of volunteer program in the [Tween Volunteer Tracking](file:///C:\Users\Sara\AppData\Local\Microsoft\Windows\Temporary%20Internet%20Files\Content.Outlook\Tween%20Volunteer%20Tracking.xlsx) spreadsheet.

## Room Set-up

* Tables and chairs for each Big & Little Buddy
* Storytime carpet
* Table for book display and story starter props

# Program Outline

**Tween Volunteer Training**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Lead** | **Activity** | **Notes** |
| 2:00 – 2:10 | Library Staff | Welcome & Icebreaker | * This may be a refresher to some Tween Buddies |
| 2:10 – 2:20 | Library Staff | Story Buddies program overview | * Follow [Training Manual for Tween Big Buddies](../Training%20Manual%20for%20Tween%20Big%20Buddies.pdf) |
| 2:20 – 2:25 | Library Staff | Question and break |  |
| 2:25 – 2:30 | Library Staff & Tween Buddy | Transition to Story Buddies | * Welcome little buddies |

**Story Buddies**

|  |  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| **Time** | **Lead** | **Activity** | **Notes** |
| 2:30 – 2:35 | Library Staff & Tween Buddy | Welcome & Introductions | * Parents complete photo release form |
| 2:35 – 2:45 | Library Staff | Storytime | * Find picture book ideas [here](../Picture%20books%20and%20resources.docx) |
| 2:45 – 2:50 | Library Staff | Pair buddies & icebreaker | * Buddies are paired * [Icebreaker](../Sharing%20Game%20Get%20to%20Know%20Your%20Buddy.docx) activity |
| 2:50 – 3:15 | Tween Buddy | Story writing and pictures | * If buddies finish early they can read stories together, play with story starters, etc. |
| 3:15 – 3:25 | Library Staff | Story Sharing | * Tween buddies can read stories to group * Parents are welcome to join |
| 3:25 – 3:30 | Library Staff | Good-byes | * Program feedback reminder * Tween buddy receive Volunteer Certificate |
| 3:30 |  | Program ends |  |

## Tips for matching Little & Big Buddy pairs

In advance of the program, or during Tween training, review the Little & Big Buddy pairs. Decide how you will handle an uneven number of Little or Big Buddies. You may decide on the one of the following

* Double-up with 2 Big Buddies. Tweens can take turn printing in the booklet OR one tween prints while the other draws the pictures.
* Double-up with 2 Little Buddies. Tween will transcribe story for one little buddy and then the second little buddy.

## Additional Resources

* A Story Buddies folder is located in Vault and contains the following documents:
* [..\..\Story Buddies](file:///\\file.libnet.gvpl.ca\vault\Public_Services\Programs%20and%20Outreach\Programs\_Kids%20and%20Tween%20Programming\Tween%20Programs\Story%20Buddies)
* Please also refer to [Standard Program Titles and Event Descriptions](file:///V:\Public_Services\Programs%20and%20Outreach\Staff%20Instructions,%20FAQs%20and%20Guidelines\Events%20Software\Standard%20Program%20Titles%20and%20Event%20Descriptions.docx) and [Programmer’s Guide – Story Buddies Events](file:///C:\Users\Sara\AppData\Local\Staff%20Instructions,%20FAQs%20and%20Guidelines\Events%20Software\Creating%20Events%20&%20Style%20Guide\Programmers%20Guide%20-%20Story%20Buddies%20Events.docx) documents when completing Events entries.

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