**Reading Buddies – FAQ’s for Parents**

*Is Reading Buddies a tutoring program?*

* No. Reading Buddies is designed to help instil a love of reading through the use of teen role models.

*Where did Reading Buddies come from?*

* Many libraries run a Reading Buddies type of program. Our particular one was modeled after Surrey Public Library’s.

*My child has trouble reading, and didn’t get into the program. But I see lots of kids who are good readers in it. How is that fair?*

* All kids benefit from the program. It’s true that some need the program more, but it is difficult for us to know this. We’re sorry it didn’t work out this time. Please apply again for the next one.

*Why doesn’t Reading Buddies run longer – say 15 or 20 weeks?*

* Again, the program isn’t about tutoring. It’s about mentoring. Seven weeks is enough time for children to appreciate that teens like to read, and that they too can grow up loving to read.

*My child has a great attention span. Why isn’t the program longer than an hour?*

* Most children at this age cannot focus on a task for more than an hour before needing to move on to something else. If your child is able to, then why not spend some extra time at the library reading together? It would be a very nice way to end the session!

*I’m worried that my child is not a good enough reader for this program.*

* It doesn’t matter if your child can read well, only a little, or not at all. Our teens will take time to work with your child so that they select the books they want, and will be patient with them while they read. If they can’t read, their teen buddy will read to them.

*My child is in Kindergarten and can read. Why can’t she join?*

* We do not accept applicants based on how well they read. It is entirely by age. When your child is older, she will be eligible for the program.

*Why do I have to stay in the library with my child?*

* While we do our best to provide a safe and comfortable environment, parents and guardians are still responsible for their children.

*What if my child wants to quit?*

* Joining the program meant agreeing to come for seven weeks. Children and volunteers were turned away when the program was full. Unless there is an extenuating circumstance (illness, family emergency, etc.), we ask that you please stick with the program. Let us know if there is something we can do to make it more manageable for you.