



City of
OAKLAND
California

Media Contact:

Thomas Downs
Library Community Relations
510-238-3271
tdowns@oaklandlibrary.org

News from: **Oakland Public Library**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

June 9, 2011

Children's Summer Reading Program Kicks Off June 18 at the Oakland Public Library

Oakland, CA – “One World, Many Stories” is the theme of the 2011 Summer Reading Program. Taking place at all branches of the Oakland Public Library, from June 18 through August 13, the Summer Reading Program encourages children to spend the lazy days of summer reading. All library locations will feature live entertainment and fun activities to lure kids in. As added incentive, prizes will be given to all children who fill out their reading logs and participate in Summer Reading events. Pre-readers can participate by having someone read to them.

The Summer Reading Program is a fun way to encourage kids to maintain their reading skills over the summer. Children may read anything they want for the program, so they can develop their own interests and a love of reading. Numerous studies have found that children who select books for themselves, and participate in reading as a leisure activity, improve their reading comprehension, vocabulary, spelling, and writing skills.

To entice young people to use Oakland's libraries, the Library's Children's Services Department has lined up a summer's worth of free events featuring live animals, puppet shows, storytelling, music, magic, comedy, arts and crafts, and more. Prizes include books and tickets to fun and educational attractions.

Sponsors of the 2011 Summer Reading Program include the Bernard Osher Foundation, Friends of Oakland Public Library, Stocker Foundation, and Union Pacific Foundation. Donations and prizes are contributed by the Alameda/Oakland Ferry Services, Chabot Space & Science Center, Children's Fairyland, Fentons Creamery, the Grand Lake Theater, Hometown Buffet, the Lake Merritt Boathouse, the Lawrence Hall of Science, MOCHA, the Oakland A's, the Oakland Fund for Children & Youth, the Oakland Ice Center, the Oakland Museum of California, Pasta Pomodoro, and Zeum.

For more information, please visit www.oaklandlibrary.org.

#