



## Children's Ministry Volunteer Commitment

You have chosen to be involved in a crucial and valuable ministry. The ministry to children impacts the lives of children at a vital time in their development. It is so important for children to have a positive, Christian influence in their lives – someone they can trust and depend on to be there for them. But the impact you will make will be so much more significant than just being a positive role model. By sharing yourself and the Gospel, God will use you to actually effect their eternity! Thank you for your willingness to make a difference.

The following guidelines apply to any area of Children's Ministry. Where necessary, we have separated the guidelines for our Reading Buddies Ministry.

- Never be alone with a child in a private setting
- While touch is an important means of expressing compassion, we must always be cautious to make appropriate contact – side hugs are the best method.
- Be on time, consistent and faithful. If the child is to form a trusting relationship with you, you must do what you say you will do.
- Be prepared for the assignment at hand.
- You are encouraged to support the children in areas outside the ministry as well – ie. school programs, etc.
- If, at any time, a child shares something with you that indicates there is neglect or abuse in the home, you have an obligation to report that information to the person in charge.

### Reading Buddies

Please follow the established guidelines.

- Sign in and out at the office at your assigned time.
- Meet with the child twice per month for 45 minutes each time as assigned.
- If you cannot make your time, call the school and let them know.
- Your student will be in the computer lab – you will meet them there.
- Let your student read to you.
- Guide them with whatever assignments they have.
- Feel free to ask them about family and personal lives.
- If the opportunity arises, you may pray with the child and share as God leads but never manipulate.

***I agree to these guidelines and commit to follow them.***

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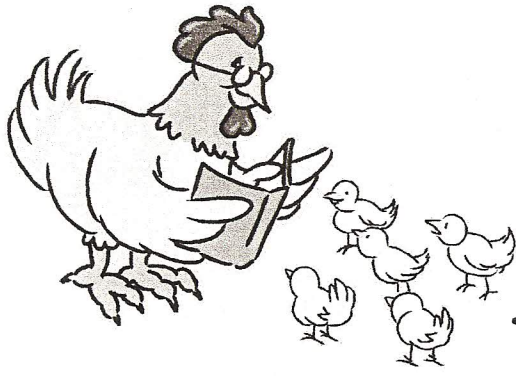
*Printed Name*

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*Signature*

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*Date*



# Reading Buddies

## A few tips to make it easy...

Upon arrival, stop by the office and sign in. You will be given a Guest sticker to wear.

You will meet your buddy in the computer lab where you will sit in a designated area to visit. You might want to visit about the book the student is reading.

Other things to talk about...

Check their AR log. It will show books they've been reading and their scores. Feel free to visit about family, Honorable Character, and the student's interests.

A few things to remember...

Always sign in, and out.

You will typically be in the computer room with the student. This will be a "safe" area for all those involved in the program.

Your time with your buddy is precious to them. Call the school (385-4551) when you can't make it, and we'll let your buddy know.

*Thank You for sharing yourself with our little ones...each visit matters!*

# Reading Buddies



## Discussion ideas:

Tell me about your books you've been reading? (check AR sheet and discuss)

Discuss current book being read. (Who is the story about? How did they feel, etc.)

Try to relate book to student's everyday life. (How would you have felt?)

## Family:

Ask about pets, brothers/sisters, parents, grandparents, etc.

Discuss things they like to do, what makes them happy/sad

## Honorable Character:

Look at, and discuss Character Sheet (Yellow sheet in folder). Talk about positive actions and improvement areas.

Talk about upcoming events they want to attend.



## AUTHORIZATION FOR CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECK

In an effort to provide for the safety and well-being of all minors involved in the ministry of **First Baptist Church of Littlefield**, the church requires a criminal background check to be performed at the time of application, and the resulting clear report to be kept on file for all persons employed by the church.

I, \_\_\_\_\_ (full legal name), hereby authorize **First Baptist Church of Littlefield** to perform a criminal background check for this stated purpose.

This agreement contains all the understandings, oral and written, of the parties and supersedes all previous agreements. If any portion of this Agreement is found to be invalid or unenforceable, it shall not affect the balance of this Agreement. This agreement will be governed by the law of the State of Texas.

Dated this \_\_\_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_ 20\_\_\_\_.

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Signature)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Date of Birth)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Driver's License Number)

\_\_\_\_\_  
(Social Security #)