



Make 2026 a Year of Reading More!

This challenge is designed to guide adult readers through a year-long reading adventure with unique reading categories. We'll keep you inspired with librarian-curated book lists and virtual badges, and you'll earn prizes as you progress.

Book recommendations span a wide range of themes and tastes — specific words in titles, cover designs, locations, characters, and more.

Here's How it Works:

Sign Up > Register for the challenge at dekalblibrary.beanstack.org.

Choose Books >

Check out the list of 52 challenge categories. We've included suggested reading lists to get you started, or you can select your own book that fits the category.

Track Progress >

After you've read a book that fits a category, find the corresponding badge in Beanstack and mark it off by entering your book title. Each book may be matched to only one category, and each category may only be completed one time.

Earn Prizes >

Prizes will be awarded at the 26 and 52 category milestones, and will be distributed monthly to your DeKalb County Library location of choice for pickup.

Ready to set your goal, turn the page, and earn prizes?

Register at dekalblibrary.beanstack.org today!



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See the challenge categories

26 in '26 Reading Challenge Prompts

- 1 › a book with a child protagonist
- 2 › a book published in 2026
- 3 › a book about a con or a heist
- 4 › a microhistory
- 5 › a book about language, letters, or words
- 6 › a genre you don't normally read
- 7 › a book with your favorite color on the cover
- 8 › one of the 100 most read books from the 100 Years 100 Books Challenge
- 9 › a book with an adjective in the title
- 10 › a book you can finish in a day
- 11 › a book set in a rural area
- 12 › a book set in an urban area
- 13 › a book with a cover you don't like
- 14 › a book recommended in DCPL Staff Picks
- 15 › a book about transportation
- 16 › a Southern Gothic
- 17 › a Caldecott Award winner
- 18 › a book about immigration or refugees
- 19 › a book set somewhere you'd love to visit
- 20 › a book by an author who goes by initials
- 21 › a book about a culture or religion different from your own
- 22 › a book with a bird on the cover
- 23 › a book about a game
- 24 › a title with a double meaning
- 25 › a book about a person experiencing a notable change
- 26 › a technothriller
- 27 › a large book
- 28 › a small book
- 29 › a book that takes place within 24 hours
- 30 › a book about an LGBTQ+ character that isn't about coming out
- 31 › a book about a writer
- 32 › a book told from a nonhuman perspective
- 33 › a book about an obsession
- 34 › a story within a story
- 35 › a translated book
- 36 › an Afrofuturistic title
- 37 › a book about a parent
- 38 › a book with food in the title
- 39 › a book with a main character who has an invisible disability
- 40 › a book about royalty
- 41 › a graphic novel
- 42 › a book that inspired a movie or tv show you loved
- 43 › a Black author featured in the Jubilee Reader
- 44 › a book based on mythology or folklore
- 45 › a book that takes place on/in water
- 46 › a book about a monster
- 47 › a book about artificial intelligence
- 48 › a mystery that doesn't involve a murder
- 49 › a sci-fi book set in the recent past
- 50 › a book recommended by a celebrity book club
- 51 › a book set in a workplace
- 52 › a book you just really want to read



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