



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

**April 20, 2018**

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**Library Launches New Summer Literacy Program**

**New Braunfels, Texas** - The New Braunfels Public Library will be launching a new program, named Reading Buddies, that will team up children and teens to participate in fun, literacy-based activities over the critical summer months. Each teen volunteer will be paired with an elementary student and attend a weekly meeting to read together, play literacy games, and do group activities.

The program, which is modeled after an award-winning program at San Jose Public Library, hopes to offset the “summer slide,” in which a lack of summer learning opportunities causes a loss of academic achievement.

“We’re excited to be rolling out a program that gives teens an opportunity to serve as mentors, and at the same time shows younger kids how fun reading can be,” said Youth Services Librarian Ariel Cummins.

Complete information and applications for both Big Buddies and Little Buddies can be found at [nbtexas.org/library](http://nbtexas.org/library) or picked up at either library location. Big Buddy applications are due by May 11th, while Little Buddies have until May 18th to turn theirs in.

The program is made possible by the Friends of the New Braunfels Public Library. It is free of charge and all children and teens are encouraged to apply.

For more information about this program, call Youth Services Librarian Ariel Cummins at 830.221.4319.

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