



# AISLE

Association of Illinois School  
Library Educators



Illinois Teen Readers' Choice  
**LINCOLN**  
AWARD

## Lincoln Award: Illinois Teen Readers' Choice

### Promotion Ideas

Click the link above to see the Promotional Materials we prepare each year for participants. Use or adapt some of the ideas Illinois librarians shared below:

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#### **Read-a-Lincoln, Win-a-Lincoln**

This program features a \$5 bill on bookmarks, displays, and entry forms. Every time someone read a Lincoln nominee, the student could complete a very brief review of the book by giving it a rating of one 1 to 4 stars and by writing a one or two sentence review. We then had weekly drawings during the daily announcements for \$5 bills and \$5 gift certificates to the coffee shop at the Batavia Public Library.

Daniel Russo LRC Director Batavia High School Batavia, IL 60510

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#### **Pizza Party**

We did have a pizza party for all the registered Abe readers, as well as one for the class with the most registered Abe readers (administration paid for the food!).

April Johns, Librarian Larkin High School, Elgin, IL

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#### **BOOKED for BREAKFAST**

We held "Booked for Breakfast" discussion sessions on the first Thursday of each month before school. Our principal paid for the doughnuts, turnovers, etc. and we supplied the cocoa, coffee, tea, and milk. The Monday-Wednesday before the breakfast session, I hung a homemade poster on the library door as a reminder. It was a large photo of Pres. Lincoln with a cartoon "word balloon" that read "My fellow Americans, if Mr. Hickey (school principal) is buying breakfast, I'll be there!"

It got a few chuckles and students began to recognize it each month.

Janet Jenkins, Robinson High School, Robinson, IL

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#### **FREE BREAKFAST with PRIZES**

I have breakfast for everyone who reads the required number of books for Abe or Read for a Lifetime. I read a Harris Poll (I think it was Harris) that said the the two most common characteristics of honor roll students are: they eat breakfast everyday and they read for enjoyment. So I tell the kids if they read for enjoyment I'll give them breakfast. I usually get everything donated; bagels, donuts, fruit, muffins, etc.

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#### **READ POSTER STARRING a STUDENT**

I also have a drawing for prizes at the breakfast and a drawing for a student to have a READ poster made holding their favorite book from the list. They can pose in a uniform if they want. I have a tennis player, a track athlete, a girl from our hip-hop squad. I love to get a band member or cheerleader.

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#### **BOOK DISCUSSION GROUPS**



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I have also started book discussion groups using these books. We meet once a month, the kids pick the books, they bring their lunch, and I make brownies. We've had some pretty good groups.

Andrea Banicki, Danville H.S., Danville

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### **BOOKTALK to ENGLISH CLASSES-Pizza Party Competition**

Classes at the beginning of the school year we spent a few minutes in every English class promoting the program and doing speed book talks on a few titles that we had with us, tailored to the age group. We encouraged whole classes to read by offering a whole class pizza party to the group with the most readers who had finished the 5 needed to vote. Most of readers are coming from 3 classes that got into the competition. The competition is great!

### **STUDENTS REGISTER by COMPLETING a BOOK REVIEW**

When kids start reading, we encouraged them to register by filling out a review sheet with their name, English teacher and class period as well as the name of the book and what they thought of it. This way we keep track of who they are, and they keep track of their opinions about the books.

### **SEND STUDENTS ENCOURAGING NOTES**

We send out encouraging notes to keep them reading, and "come check out books for break" notes at Winter break. In January and February we hosted informal after school book discussions on three of the books from the list \* one book per session. We advertised these with the teachers and to the students we knew (from our registration book) read the book. Of course, we had food to go with the lively discussions.

### **AFTER SCHOOL VOTING PARTY with PIZZA**

Early Feb. we send invitations to an after school voting party with food and prizes. We sent out notes to the readers who were not at five yet to keep reading so they would get an invite. The voting party is a pizza party \* separate from the class pizza party one class will win \* so quite a few people will get 2 parties out of their reading. Our administration picks up the cost of the pizza parties. We have book prizes donated from a local book store.

April Johns, Librarian, Larkin High School, Elgin, IL

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### **READ FIVE, READ TEN, READ ALL 22 (Three Lunches Scheduled for Voting)**

We have three evaluation forms.

Read five titles & Vote

Read Ten Titles & Vote (1st vote is destroyed)

Read 22 & Vote (2nd vote is destroyed)

We schedule three lunches during the school year. We bring food in from a different (and better) place each time. The ballots ask why students chose the book they did. These ballots are posted on our ALHSBA display.

Gayl Smith formerly of Waubonsie Valley H.S.

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### **PENCILS, SLINKY's and PIZZA**

I give them a READ pencil for reading just one book...a rainbow READ, plastic slinky for 5 books (they really work for the slinkies!)...and if they read 11 I will buy them a hardback book of their choice (within a reasonable price) and my principal pays for pizza. Eventually this may get too spendy, but I only had to buy 4 books last year. I just applied for a grant from our local school foundation to purchase two sets of the books and money for incentives.

Renee Kozeal , Princeton High School, Princeton, IL

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### **INCENTIVES**

Read 2 books- Candy Bar – Read 5 books – Eligibility to vote & Entry into weekly Read a Lincoln, Win a Lincoln (drawing every Friday to win a \$5 gift card and a copy of your favorite Abe book). – Read 10 books – Two movie tickets – Read 15 books – Field Trip to the Abraham Lincoln Presidential Library & Museum in Springfield, IL. – Read 22 books – \$25 gift card

Annie Bergeron, Bloom Trail High School, Chicago Hts.

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### **BOOK BUCKS**

Each time my students read and report on a book, they get a book buck - we mark it down on their sign up sheet. Book bucks can be spent on prizes, school supplies, copies, and clearing fines. Next year I will have one sign up sheet with RFL books on one side and Abe books on the other. The students who do read them usually read from both lists.

### **Audio Books Help**

I also buy some of the audio. Listening counts just like reading.

Kathryn White Librarian, United Township High School Library ,East Moline, IL 61244

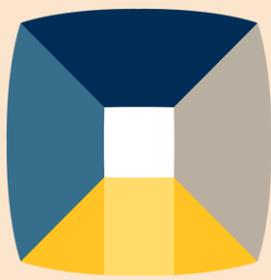
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### **TEACHER EXTRA CREDIT**

Our district has really been promoting reading across the curriculum. So, we got many of our teachers to agree to giving students extra credit for reading and ABE book. When the student completes a book, we ask a few questions that prove the student really has read the book. We then give them an ABE bookmark (available to download on the website) and write on the back the students name, the name of the book and the date. They then show it to all their teachers who determine how many extra credit points they receive. The PE department has even worked out a way with us so that their students can read the ABE books to make up missed point for a "no dress". We've found that the promise of extra credit is the most successful incentive of all the campaigns we've tried.

Karen Eldred ,Thornwood High School , South Holland

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### **READING WALL of FAME**

Oddly enough, my promotion is incredibly simple. I create flyers in Publisher with their picture and the titles of the books they have completed on it and print them in color. They go on my reading wall of fame. Those have read 4 Read for a Lifetime books earn a spot. Those that have read 5 Abe Lincoln books earn a spot. It amazes me how much they love seeing their pictures up. Their parents love it also on parent conference night and during open house. I also enclose a copy of the flyer in with the certificate of completion I send home.

### **CERTIFICATES-SIGNED by the SUPERINTENDENT**

With Read, the state sends ones signed by Jessie. I get my superintendent to sign the Abe certs.

### **READ the BOOK, GET the LOOK**

Last year I did a "read a book, get the look" promotion. The booster club donated LP gear and I was able to give out two hoodies, 10 t-shirts, 10 baseball hats and 10 winter caps. I also had several lanyards. The faculty wanted a piece of the action and I had prizes for 7 that finished. The booster club was incredible. They had to read books from either list, tell me about the book then put their name in the drawing. That was quite successful but more so with the younger students.

Carolyn Roys, Dwight H.S., Dwight, IL