

News Release

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TEEN READ WEEK OCTOBER 14-20

Teen Read Week dares teens to read for the fun of it with a Halloween-inspired theme of "It Came from the Library!"

Teen Read Week is a time to celebrate reading for fun and encourage teens to take advantage of reading in all its forms —books and magazines, e-books, audiobooks and more — and become regular library users. It is the national adolescent literacy initiative of the Young Adult Library Services Association (YALSA), a division of the American Library Association.

"Teens have more activities to fill their free time than ever — web videos, social networking sites, video games, afterschool activities, athletics —and increasingly high expectations in the classroom," said Kari Johnson, Youth Programming Librarian. "It's important that we show them that reading is something fun and relaxing that they can do for free. And that reading for fun can translate into better performance at school."

The Fresno County Public Library will celebrate Teen Read Week with a chance for teens to win a Kindle Paperwhite E-Reader. To be eligible to win, teens have until October 20 to post book reviews to <u>www.fresnoteens.org</u>. Reviews must be of a teen book and can include audiobooks and e-books. The winner will be announced October 22.

Many families have learned to make do with less as a result of the economy and have flocked to the library. Teen Read Week was developed to ensure that teens and their families are aware of all the free services the Library can offer them and to reach out to teens who aren't regular users. Parents are encouraged to celebrate Teen Read Week at home with these suggested activities:

- Visit the public or school library with your teen to attend a program or to check out books.
- Set aside time each night for the family to read.
- Give books or magazine subscriptions to your teen as a gift or reward.
- Share your favorite book with your teen.
- Go online with your teen to learn about new books or authors. A good place to start is YALSA's Booklists and Book Awards page, <u>www.ala.org/yalsa/booklists</u>.
- Join a book discussion group at the school or public library.