

# **Grand Lodge of Michigan**

## **Bikes for Books Program**

### **Goals:**

- To increase visibility of the local Masonic Lodge in our communities.
- To support public education and assist in the education of our children
- To provide kids with a positive reinforcement for reading

### **Objectives:**

#### **For Students:**

- To increase their reading/comprehension skills
- To recognize positive achievements
- To provide an attainable goal, with life enhancing results

#### **For Community:**

- To provide the community with a positive view of the fraternity
- To build social capital with the schools, and families in our communities

## **Costs:**

- Two bikes and helmets (one for a boy and one for a girl) in the drawing (the Lodge may offer more if it is in their budget)
- Mailing of the materials (may be hand delivered instead of mailed to the school principal)
- Printing of the materials (possibly donated)
- Small prizes (maybe donated from local businesses)
- Certificates for those that participated (printed in house)

## **Timeline:**

- These timelines are not meant to be exclusive. The program will always have to operate in concert with the School and the Teachers schedule. Please be sure and work with the teacher.
- First Month – Let Grand Lodge know that your lodge will be participating and how many bikes will be available for your drawing.
- Second Month – each Lodge establishes your program team and then meets with the local school principal to see if they would be interested. You need to have the printed program plan for the principal. If the program is a go, then have printed plans for each class you will be working with.
- Third Month – Get materials to the principal for distribution to each class
- Middle of the Third Month– Bikes for Books Program start
- Sixth Month – Program Ends
- After completion – Make the presentation of the Bikes with Helmets at an awards ceremony of the schools choosing. It could be a previously arranged program, School Board Meeting or PTO meeting. The Teacher and Principal will provide you with the best choice.
- Next – Inform the Member Services Office (800-632-8764 or [renewal@gl-mi.org](mailto:renewal@gl-mi.org)) of the program. Who won, story about the kids, newspaper articles and so on. We'll include the story in our newsletters, emails and/or magazines.

## **Guidelines for the Bikes for Books Program**

- ✓ Program is for students in grades three through five
- ✓ Time frame for the program is approximately six months.
- ✓ Student must read 8 books that are on their grade level and approved by their teacher. If the books are challenging for their grade level, the teacher can allow the book to count as 2 but the student should read at least 6 books.  
**Remember: The teacher is the one that knows what the students need to do and how they will do it. We do not override the teacher.**
- ✓ Any student that meets the requirements and turns in the attached form will have their name placed in a drawing for a bike and helmet. The participating students will be notified where and when the drawing will be held. **The drawing will be for 1 boy and 1 girl with a bike and helmet of the correct size.**
- ✓ The teacher may use any method they determine is best for their particular students and circumstances. If the attached form is useful they may utilize it, or not. We want to encourage kids to read, not to force teachers to complete more paperwork.
- ✓ You need to have a contact person in your local area (school district). If questions arise, the school needs to be able to contact us easily and quickly.
- ✓ For every eight books read, another entry application will be added to the contest.

# **BIKES FOR BOOKS PROGRAM FORM**

**PROGRAM IS FOR STUDENTS IN GRADES 3 through 5**  
**Please type or print: this form will be used for the drawing**

NAME: \_\_\_\_\_

SCHOOL: \_\_\_\_\_ GRADE: \_\_\_\_\_

HOME MAILING ADDRESS: \_\_\_\_\_

CITY: \_\_\_\_\_ STATE: MI ZIP: \_\_\_\_\_

PHONE: \_\_\_\_\_ EMAIL: \_\_\_\_\_

BOY \_\_\_\_\_ GIRL \_\_\_\_\_

I have read the following 8 books. Please place my name in the drawing for a bike and helmet. Included are my written paragraphs on each book that I had read.

\_\_\_\_\_ (signature)

1. \_\_\_\_\_
2. \_\_\_\_\_
3. \_\_\_\_\_
4. \_\_\_\_\_
5. \_\_\_\_\_
6. \_\_\_\_\_
7. \_\_\_\_\_
8. \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_ (parent signature)

or

\_\_\_\_\_ (teacher signature)

Please mail or email this completed form to: (\_\_\_\_\_).

The deadline for receiving this form is \_\_\_\_\_.



**Masons. Live better.™**

To: Elementary Principals and Teachers (grades 3 to 5)

RE: Michigan Masons Bikes for Books Program

Dear Sir or Madam,

The Michigan Masons are conducting a Bikes for Books program and want your School to be part of it.

We're sure that you third through fifth grade students currently have reading requirements that they must fulfill. In order to present an incentive and assist your kids with some inducement the Masons of \_\_\_\_\_ will provide to one boy and one girl that complete the reading requirements of your school a brand new bicycle and helmet!

This program is provided at no cost to your school or the kids involved. Basically this is the program: A student needs to read eight or more books within a six month time frame. All of those students that comply with this (the teacher needs to keep track of the total books read) will have his and/or her name entered into a drawing. At the time of the drawing, sometime in the spring two bikes will be presented to the winners.

If you have any questions please feel free to call \_\_\_\_\_  
at \_\_\_\_\_.

Thank you for your assistance!

(signed)

Enclosures: Guidelines



**Masons. Live better.™**

Your Masonic Lodge Name Here

Your Address Here

City, State and Zip Here

*A mission statement here*

### **Introducing the Bikes for Books Program**

Dear Parent or Guardian,

The \_\_\_\_\_ Masonic Lodge in cooperation with \_\_\_\_\_ Elementary School is sponsoring a new program to encourage students in grades three through five to read. The program requirements are simple; they need to read 8 “grade level” books approved by their teacher during a sixth month period. If the student meets those requirements and has turned in their completed entry form to their teacher, their name will be added to a drawing that will take place in the Spring at a school assembly for a new bike and helmet. We hope to start a new tradition with the school.

Reading is one of the most important things that we can give to our children. Every teacher in the school believes that reading can lead to a lifetime of achievements.

This program is a mutual commitment between the student, the teacher and principal, our Lodge, and especially you the parent. If we all work together, then we are all winners.

Enclosed is a sheet with the guidelines for the program and an entry form that will need to be completed by the student, the teacher, and yourself. After completion, please either mail it or email it back to the Lodge so your child’s name can be entered in the drawing. Thank you for your consideration with this program that will help all of the children to succeed.

Sincerely,



**Masons. Live better.™**

Dear Sir or Madam,

The \_\_\_\_\_ Masonic Lodge is having our first Bikes for Books program. In the spring, we will be presenting two students from our local elementary school, a brand new bike and helmet. This program has been very successful around the country and we are hoping to start a new local tradition with the school. The program asks for the students to read eight books in a six month period that have been approved by their teacher. The parents are also involved with having to sign the entry form stating that their child has completed all of the requirements. I am enclosing a list of those guidelines and a copy of the entry form so you are aware of what we are asking for from the student.

We are soliciting help from local businesses like yourself for support in this program by donating funds for additional bikes or possibly an age appropriate prize like a book, puzzle, or bike lock for the drawing so we can allow additional children to receive an award during the presentation.

Thank you for your consideration with this request.

Sincerely,