

**SMFC Education Foundation  
Readathon 2025  
Teacher/Staff Readathon FAQs**

1. **What is the SMFC Education Foundation (SMFCEF) Readathon?** The SMFCEF is a 501(c)(3) non-profit organization that serves ALL students enrolled in the San Mateo-Foster City School District (SMFCSD). This is the 9th annual Readathon! Funds from the Reathon will support essential staff and programs like LEGO Education Labs and middle school clubs. Visit our [website](#) for more information.
2. **Does the Readathon count as a fundraiser for my school PTA?** The SMFCEF and your school site PTA are separate nonprofits and fund different things, but they are both essential to a strong school community. The Readathon donations will support programs for ALL students in the SMFCSD.
3. **Who can participate in the Readathon?** ALL SMFCSD preschool - 8th grade students may participate in the Readathon!
4. **When will the Readathon begin and end?** You can register your students anytime, but logging reading minutes starts on Friday, January 24th. All reading minutes must be logged by the end of the day on Friday, February 7th.
5. **Can I enter reading minutes for my students?** Yes. Elementary teachers may now enter reading minutes for their students if they choose to (this is not a requirement). See these [instructions](#) to enter reading minutes for your students. We expect middle school students to register and enter their reading minutes, and preschool students to be registered and reading minutes entered by their parents/caregivers.
6. **Why do I see some student's names listed twice?** These students have probably been registered by their parents/caregivers and teachers. If you see a student's name listed more than once, email us at [readathon@smfcedfund.org](mailto:readathon@smfcedfund.org), and we will merge the student's accounts.
7. **Can my students log their reading minutes?** Yes. Your students can log their reading minutes, but they must have the username/email address and password they or their parent/caregiver used to register. For security reasons, they should not use their SMFCSD email address to register for the Readathon.
8. **Can my student(s) use their school/SMFCSD email addresses to register?** No. For security reasons, only personal email addresses may be used to register students. *Minutes entered for students registered with the SMFCSD email addresses will NOT be counted.*
9. **Can I get paper reading logs?** Yes. This is the [paper reading log](#) we have created. Unfortunately, given the large number of SMFCSD students participating in the Readathon, we can no longer upload paper reading logs. Elementary teachers and school staff may collect the reading logs and enter reading minutes for students.
10. **What counts as reading minutes?** All reading minutes during and outside school hours count! Minutes spent listening to audiobooks and books read aloud to your students count as reading minutes. Watching TV does not count as reading minutes.
11. **Is there a maximum number of minutes?** Yes. The reading minutes will be capped at 500 minutes/daily per student.
12. **Do my students have to collect donations to participate?** No. You can still register your students to track reading minutes, but they do not have to seek donations. Several prizes/rewards are based on reading minutes.
13. **When are donations due?** Donations are due at the end of the day on Sunday, February 9th.
14. **What are the Readathon rewards/prizes?** Your students may earn rewards for their school, classroom, and themselves. Visit our [website](#) for a list of rewards. Teachers who register and record minutes for their classroom by Friday, January 31st, will be entered into a raffle for an Amazon gift card!

15. **Looking for other reading activities?** Check out our reading bingo and reading challenge to share with your students!