

Q&A

Questions & Answers



What is a Common Read?

A Common Read is when a large group of people read the same book at the same time and then have discussions about that book. The discussions can be in book clubs, classrooms, or gatherings in the library.

Is this the first time the Tangipahoa Parish Library is conducting a Common Read?

This is our eighth year conducting a Common Read.

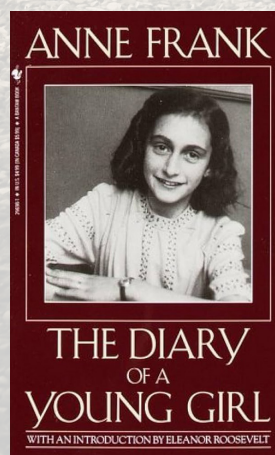
What is this year's Common Read book?

This year's Common Read is the Anne Frank's *The Diary of a Young Girl*.

Discovered in the attic where she spent the last years of her life, Anne Frank's remarkable diary has become a world classic—a powerful reminder of the horrors of war and an eloquent testament to the human spirit.

In 1942, as Nazis occupied Holland, a thirteen-year-old Jewish girl and her family fled their home in Amsterdam and went into hiding. For the next two years, until their whereabouts were betrayed to the Gestapo, they and another family lived cloistered in the secret upstairs rooms of an old office building. Cut off from the outside world, they faced hunger, boredom, the constant cruelties of living in confined quarters, and the ever-present threat of discovery and death.

In her diary Anne Frank recorded vivid impressions of her experiences during this period. By turns thoughtful, moving, and amusing, Anne's account offers a fascinating commentary on human courage and frailty and a compelling self-portrait of a sensitive and spirited young woman whose promise was tragically cut short.



How can I get a copy of the book?

The library has purchased a number of copies of the paperback edition. We will also have audio books, e-books and large print books. Many of these will be cataloged for our branches, and cataloged for totes that will be loaned out to book clubs, senior centers, classrooms at schools, etc. People may check the book out from one of our branches or participate in a book club or other organization reading the novel. Copies are also available for purchase at each branch.

What is the object of the Common Read?

The object is three-fold:

1. To encourage reading.
2. To stimulate dialogue about the themes in the book – upheaval and resilience, of second chances, and unexpected friendship.
3. To foster a sense of community by bringing people together through literature.

What are the dates of the Common Read?

The library will begin Celebrating the Written Word with the Common Read is now underway and will continue until May, 2026. Throughout the year, there will be programs and activities tied to the book's theme.

Can I start reading the book and be part of the Common Read after the October kickoff?

You can start today. The Common Read will last through the year. There will be many opportunities to discuss the book throughout the year.

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