

## Read Away Fines Policy

The staff at the Ocean City Free Public Library established this policy with the goal of encouraging children to use the library in order to develop a love of reading and learning. Children and teens, age 18 and under, as well as non-reading children being read to by a parent or caregiver may read away their overdue fines.

- Only fines on juvenile patron cards may be read away.
- Only late fines may be read away; fines for lost or damaged items will not be included.
- \$1.00 will be deducted from a child's fines for every 20 minutes read.
- The reduced amount will only apply to current fines. Credit will not be given towards future fines.

### Procedure:

- Patron may check in at the Children's services desk, Young Adult desk, Reference desk or Bookmobile.
- Staff member will note the Patron's library card number and current time.
- Patron will be free to read anywhere within the library, or Bookmobile, but will have to return to the same desk when they are finished reading.
- Staff member will note the end time and remove the appropriate fine from the Patron account.
- Patrons, who violate the Patron Conduct Policy or other library policies, while reading away fines, will not have their fines removed.

Adopted May 14, 2018