

## Useful websites

[www.wheatonlibrary.org](http://www.wheatonlibrary.org)  
Follow the links under “Books and Reading” to the page listing sites useful to book groups.

[www.readinggroupguides.com](http://www.readinggroupguides.com)  
Almost 1400 discussion guides as well as advice for running a book group.

[www.readinggroupchoices.com](http://www.readinggroupchoices.com)  
“Selections for lively book discussions”

Many publishers have guides to their popular books as well as author information. Check their websites.



**So many books,  
so little time!**

The library has two discussion groups.

The **Contemporary Book Discussion Group** meets Sept. through June on the first Thursday at 7:30 p.m. and the second Tuesday and the second Wednesday at 10 a.m.

The **Great Books Discussion Group** meets on the second Wednesday of the month at 7:30 p.m.

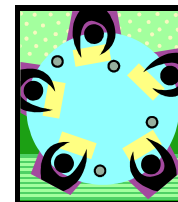
## Wheaton Public Library

225 North Cross Street  
Wheaton, IL 60187  
Library website:  
[www.wheatonlibrary.org](http://www.wheatonlibrary.org)  
Phone: 630-868-7520  
E-mail for book group info:  
[b-rupert@mail.wheaton.lib.il.us](mailto:b-rupert@mail.wheaton.lib.il.us)  
revised 12/07

Wheaton Public  
Library

# Talking about books

Tips for book  
discussion  
groups



## We can help you in conducting a book discussion group.

How? We can suggest titles for your group and assist you in finding background information and reviews. If your group happens to pick a title that the library discussion group has already done, we would be able to provide you with 10-12 copies of the book. In most cases, we can also interlibrary loan multiple copies. Stop at the Reader's Help Desk or call 868-7520 and ask for Beth Rupert. Email your question to [b-rupert@mail.wheaton.lib.il.us](mailto:b-rupert@mail.wheaton.lib.il.us).



## Reader's Advisory Collection

Located near the Reader's Help Desk, this collection has books and bibliographies to assist people who want to start a book discussion group or who are looking for ideas and suggestions for their group.

## Discussion Basics

- 1) 4-12 members is a good size as it allows all a chance to participate.
- 2) Each discussion needs a leader to keep the group focused. Consider rotating the duty.
- 3) The book should be affordable and/or accessible to everyone.
- 4) Give people 4-6 weeks to read the selection.
- 5) Ask the librarian for ideas!



## Book Group Favorites

*Bel Canto* by Ann Patchett

*Revolutionary Road* by Richard Yates

*Sister of My Heart* by Chitra Divakaruni

*Life of Pi* by Yann Martel

*Montana 1948* by Larry Watson

*My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult

*The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency* by Alexander McCall Smith

*The Secret Life of Bees* by Sue Monk Kidd

*When the Emperor Was Divine* by Julie Otsuka

*Year of Wonders: a novel of the plague* by Geraldine Brooks

