Jane Beshear, First Lady of Kentucky, joins with The Kentucky Department of Education in supporting the Kentucky Public Libraries' Summer Reading Programs. This year's themes are "Dream Big" (early literacy and children) and "Own the Night" (teens). A letter to parents from Mrs. Beshear will be sent to schools in May encouraging families to support reading throughout the summer months. Watch and share a brief video from Mrs. Beshear at this link: http://tinyurl.com/summerreadingkyvideo.

Teachers and parents are encouraged to help children use "Find a Book, Kentucky" (http://www.lexile.com/fab/ky) to build personal reading lists for summer reading and then locate their selections at their school library or local public library. "Find a Book, Kentucky" uses the widely-adopted Lexile® measure to match a reader with books that will provide the right level of challenge to support reading growth. School librarians and public librarians are ready to assist children and their parents as they make summer reading selections.

New this year: The Kentucky Department of Education encourages students to "**Pledge to Read**" during the summer on the "Find a Book, Kentucky" site. Look for the "Submit your summer reading pledge" icon to indicate participation.

Find more information on the Kentucky Department of Education's "Summer Reading" Web page: http://tinyurl.com/KYSummerReading. Each school's certified school librarian has additional resources to promote Summer Reading Programs. For more information about specific activities, contests, and reading events for the Summer Reading Program in your county, contact your local public library (http://kdla.ky.gov/librarians/Pages/LibraryDirectory.aspx).

Contact Kathy Mansfield via email at kathy.mansfield@education.ky.gov with any questions.