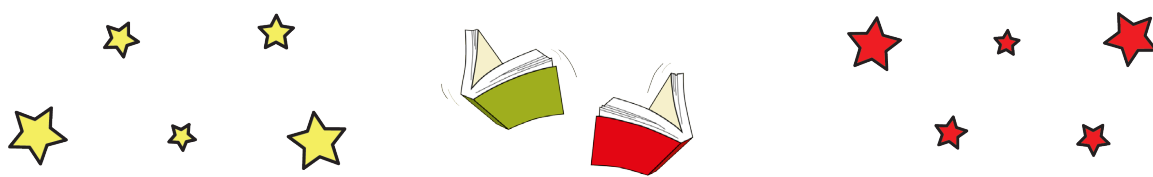


THE READING AGENCY AND LIBRARIES PRESENT



SUMMER READING CHALLENGE 2018



SCHOOLS PACK

readingagency.org.uk/schools



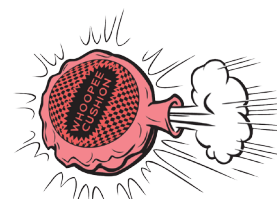
**IT'S FUN!
IT'S FREE!
IT'S LOCAL!**



Keep your pupils reading this summer



**IN LIBRARIES FROM
SATURDAY 14 JULY**



Supported using public funding by
**ARTS COUNCIL
ENGLAND**

BEANO

**SUMMER
READING
CHALLENGE**

**THE
READING
AGENCY**

What's it all about?

"The Summer Reading Challenge is about reading for the pleasure of reading."

Lauren Child, Waterstones Children's Laureate

The Summer Reading Challenge takes place over the summer holidays in libraries throughout England, Scotland and Wales.

Developed by charity The Reading Agency, along with the UK public library network, it is now in its 20th year and is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for primary aged children.

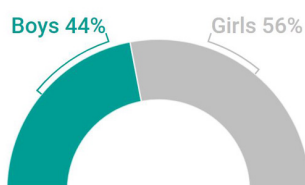
761,758

children in the UK took part in Animal Agents, the Summer Reading Challenge 2017⁺



415,732

children completed the Challenge
by reading at least
6 library books (57%)



Only 1 in 4 boys read
outside of class every day*
44% of Challenge
participants were boys



89,632

book reviews were written
by children on
summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Each year there's a new theme to keep the Summer Reading Challenge fresh and exciting.

For 2018 the theme is **MISCHIEF MAKERS**, celebrating the 80th anniversary of the much-loved comic Beano.

Mischief Makers will celebrate adventure, friendship, reading and fun and is a must for all children who want to live in the moment and be themselves.



+ Comprised of 734,552 children aged 4-11 and 27,206 additional children under 4 who took part with special pre-school materials

*The National Literacy Trust Report 2012

How it works:

The Summer Reading Challenge encourages children and families into their local libraries and inspires them to read for pleasure by combining free access to books with fun social activities and a creative online element.

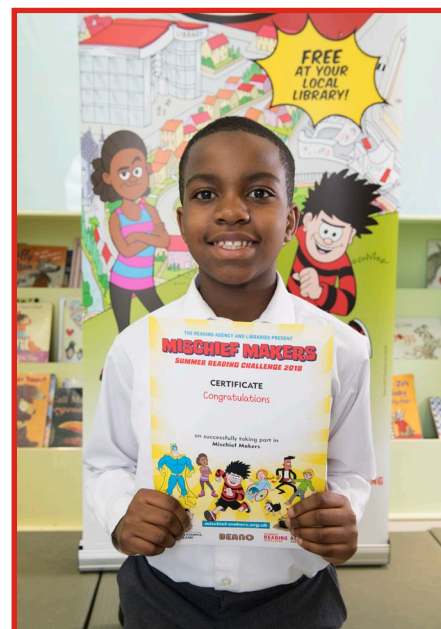


Throughout the Summer Reading Challenge, library staff and teenage and adult volunteers support children, helping them to discover new authors and explore a wide range of different types of books.



It's easy to take part:

- Children sign up at their local library from Saturday 14 July*
- They receive a Mischief Makers collector poster to get them started
- They borrow and read at least SIX books during the summer, collecting special stickers and incentives along the way
- They can read any library book they choose - story books, fact books, joke books, audio books - they all count
- They receive a certificate and/or medal when they finish



*Regional variations do apply so check with your library to find out when Mischief Makers will start and end locally.

What are the benefits?

"Reading widely...opens up a treasure-house of wonder and joy for curious young minds." - National Curriculum for English 2014 Key Stages 1 and 2

"Children who love reading will read more and, over time, choose literature which is more demanding and suitably stretching.

It creates a virtuous circle: as the amount a child reads increases, their reading attainment improves, which in turn encourages them to read more.

All reading makes a difference, but evidence suggests that reading for pleasure makes the most." - Reading: the next steps, DfE 2015

"Children who use libraries are twice as likely to be above average readers."
- National Literacy Trust, 2011

Children who take part in the Summer Reading Challenge:

- Are more enthusiastic about reading
- Maintain their reading confidence level over the holidays
- Boost their confidence and self-esteem



"The reading challenge has made me read more because before I wasn't reading very much but now I am reading a book in about a day!"

- Boy aged 10, Blaenavon

"I liked it because it is a good way to read more books and get more confidence in reading."

- Girl aged 9, Suffolk

"I enjoyed this challenge and it encouraged me to read every week."

- Boy aged 6, West Lothian

"All too often reading is seen as something of a homework chore and the Challenge really helps to break that image!"

- Teacher, Berkshire

"I felt really lost in the books I was reading and I didn't before. It encouraged me to read more."

- Girl aged 7, West Sussex

How your school can benefit:

- The Summer Reading Challenge is intrinsically inclusive and can contribute to the achievement of all your pupils, including those with special educational needs, disadvantaged pupils and the most able
- It enhances and supports your school's reading policy and your mission for all children to read widely and often
- It keeps your pupils reading over the summer and ready for their return to school in the autumn
- It allows children to become more independent in their reading
- It supports the successful transition between year groups and key stages



"My child used to struggle with reading and the challenge came at a time when he was just starting to click with reading before he started Year Two.

I think the challenge gave him the confidence to read for pleasure on his own as well as with us and the idea of the certificate and medal really spurred him on.

The challenge helped him develop a love of reading outside the school reading scheme and beyond the bedtime story." - Parent, South Tyneside

"Brilliant, never done it before and it meant my child went up a reading level when returning to school in September.

Usually a nightmare to get him to read to me but he went along with it for the prizes. Thank you!" - Parent, York



Choosing, recommending and reviewing books are great skills to develop as part of reading widely and for pleasure. The [Book Sorter](https://www.booksorter.org) is the largest database of children's peer-to-peer recommendations. It's safe, fun and easy to use. Visit summerreadingchallenge.org.uk to give it a try!

Promoting the Summer Reading Challenge in your school

Promoting the Summer Reading Challenge through schools is one of the most effective ways of spreading the word in the run up to the summer holidays.

All Summer Reading Challenge resources are available at:

readingagency.org.uk/schools



- Tell parents! Use the [template](#) in your newsletters, class blog or on your website and send [family leaflets](#) home in book bags (available May 2018)
- Use the Mischief Makers [promotional poster](#) throughout your school in the weeks leading up to the summer holidays
- Tell children about the Summer Reading Challenge website where they can recommend books to others, take part in competitions and play games: summerreadingchallenge.org.uk
- Use the Mischief Makers themed [assembly presentation](#) (available May 2018) and invite your local library staff in to tell children what will be happening at their library this summer
- Use the Book Review Bookmarks to encourage children to share their favourite books with their friends (available May 2018)
- Choose books from the [Mischief Makers collection](#) to share with your class
- Celebrate after the summer! Encourage children to bring in their certificates/ medals, hold a special assembly, put photos of your completers in your school newsletter, send your stories and photos to: summerreadingchallenge@readingagency.org.uk



Useful links

Visit the Summer Reading Challenge website for book recommendations, competitions, videos, games and chat about books all year every year:

www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

Access all the downloadable schools resources: www.readingagency.org.uk/schools

Reading groups are a great way to encourage children to read more widely for pleasure. If you want to start a school reading group, you'll find advice and a huge variety of free downloadable resources at www.chatterbooks.org.uk

For information about how young people can volunteer to help run the Summer Reading Challenge in libraries visit www.readinghack.org.uk

For more information about The Reading Agency and our programmes: www.readingagency.org.uk

To continue your partnership with your local public library and your Schools Library Service: www.sla.org.uk

The Summer Reading Challenge is a nationally validated Children's University learning activity and libraries are recognised Learning Destinations: www.readingagency.org.uk/resources/630

The Summer Reading Challenge can be used towards Arts Award Discover: www.readingagency.org.uk/resources/2275/

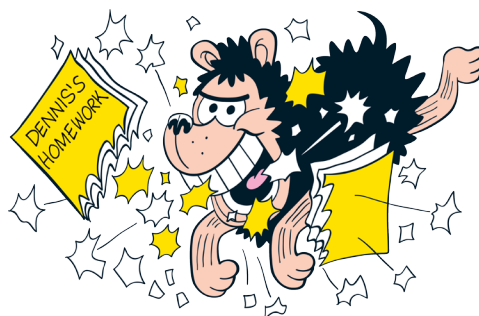
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