

SUMMER READING CHALLENGE



The Summer Reading Challenge is the biggest children's reading for pleasure programme in the UK. Last year, 4591 children and their families from Central Bedfordshire alone took part.

This year is going to be a bit different. The Reading Agency has developed a Digital Summer Reading Challenge on the theme of Silly Squad, which is running until September. Central Bedfordshire Libraries have lots of e-books, audiobooks, activities and information on how to sign up for the [Silly Squad Summer Reading Challenge](#). We plan to offer a Select and Collect service later in the summer, which will give access to our print books.

How the Challenge works

- The challenge is aimed at children age 4-11, although anyone is welcome to join.
- Virtual Library has information on the [Summer Reading Challenge](#) and how to sign up.
- This year, children set their own challenge for what they are aiming to read over the summer. It can include books, e-books, audiobooks and magazines.
- [E-books, audiobooks and e-magazines](#) are available free of charge from Central Bedfordshire Libraries, using a library card number and pin.
- Parents and children can [join the library](#), enabling them to access our e-resources.
- Our libraries are currently closed, but we are planning a Select and Collect service, which will include access to books for the Summer Reading Challenge. Up to date information about library opening will be found at [Central Bedfordshire Libraries - Library Opening](#)
- Suggestions for reading can be found on our Virtual Library [Booklists](#)
- We will not be giving out materials and prizes this year.
- Activities online include Silly Squad crafts, Code club, Chatterbooks book-themed activities and Marty the Martian event. Details on our [Facebook page](#) and on the [Virtual Library](#).

Joining the Summer Reading Challenge is a way to support your children's reading and is especially important this year when children have missed so much of their normal schooling. Reading for pleasure is a more important determination of children's educational success than their families' socio-economic status. [Sullivan and Brown (2013) [Social inequalities in cognitive scores at age 16: The role of reading](#)]

For further information, go to the Silly Squad information on our [Virtual Library](#) or you can [Contact us](#).



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