



The Reading Agency and Libraries Present

SILLY SQUAD

Summer Reading Challenge 2020

sillysquad.org.uk



Dear Head Teacher,

Organised by the charity, The Reading Agency (www.readingagency.org.uk) and the UK public library network since 1999, the Summer Reading Challenge is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11. A recent survey commissioned by The Reading Agency showed that 45% of young people are reading more during lockdown.

How does the Challenge work this year?

Last year, 722,731 children took part in Space Chase reading challenge.

This year the challenge is called **Silly Squad** emphasizing much needed humour in books! Due to Covid-19 and the ongoing social distancing measures in schools and public libraries, this year the Challenge will be digital and children can join on the Reading Agency's site: <https://summerreadingchallenge.org.uk/silly-squad-bc-landing>. All the family need is a free Gloucestershire library membership and if not already a member, families can join here: <https://gloucestershire.spydus.co.uk/cgi-bin/spydus.exe/MSGTRN/WPAC/JOIN>

The Challenge offers free access to games and a place for children to rate and review their books and plenty of author recommendations.

Gloucestershire Libraries are going to have a **programme of online events** from the 20th July keep eye on our twitter <https://twitter.com/gloslibs>

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/GloucestershireLibraries/> and

YouTube channels <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRkIKlvvpoajcK3L8dBmX7g/videos>

We have an abundance of free **eBooks** <https://gloucestershire.rbdigitalglobal.com/>

And **eAudio** books

https://fe.bolindadigital.com/wldcs_bol_fo/b2i/mainPage.html?b2bSite=1265

Will children be able to get physical books from the library?

The latest news is that several libraries from the 13th of July will be able to offer physical books by "Reserve and collect"-Search the catalogue, find items and reserve them. When the item(s) arrive at your selected library you will receive an email asking you to select a time slot for collection.

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Off the Shelf – “We select you collect” - complete an online form stating the type of books or other items that you would like. Staff will then select on your behalf, from the stock held within the library you choose to collect from, and will email you asking you to choose a time slot for collection.

How do schools benefit?

The Summer Reading Challenge is launching earlier than usual to keep children reading over the summer and support parents and carers with children already at home.

It encourages parental engagement and family involvement in reading and helps your school make links with the library and the wider community.

It also helps to encourage a love of reading in a fun way.

Please keep an eye on our YouTube for an exclusive **recorded Summer Reading Challenge assembly!! Coming soon** <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCRkIKlvvpoajcK3L8dBMx7g>