

Summer reading

The importance of summer reading is well documented and has resulted in a constant stream of advice that urges children and adolescents to read, read, read. When students are away from the classroom and not participating in formal literacy instruction, their reading development declines. Researchers have uncovered evidence to suggest that the impact of summer reading loss is significant.

“What we know is that children who do not read in the summer lose two to three months of reading development while kids who do read tend to gain a month of reading proficiency. This creates a three to four month gap every year. Every two or three years, the kids who don’t read in the summer fall a year behind the kids who do.”

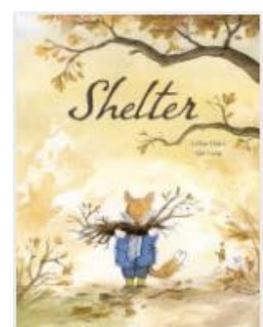
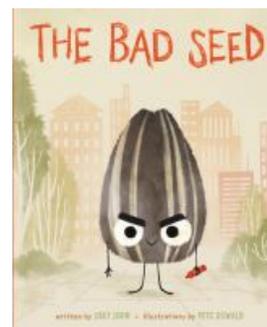
Richard Allington - Researcher and summer reading loss expert

All students benefit from summer reading. For our younger students, listening to their favourite books being read out loud, will support the development of their reading skills. Students can maintain their current reading level if they read a few books during the two-month break. If they read more, they not only maintain, but in some cases, improve their skills. The key, however, is for students to voluntarily read about topics of their own interest and not be forced to read books they don’t want to read or to complete comprehension questions or tasks. Allowing them to choose their own books increases their reading motivation and interest. Reading for pleasure is what’s important.

To provide your children with a wide variety of books to choose from, visit your local library. Your children may want to join the summer reading program that all Surrey public libraries offer. The link below will give you information on the offerings at your local library.

<https://www.surreylibraries.ca/services/kids-families/summer-reading-club>

Check out some of the picture book of the year nominees for 2018/19. Your school librarian and the librarian at your local library will be able to help you find the rest of the nominees.



Your children in grades 4-7 may be interested in the novel book of the year nominees which include...



Your teen readers have lots to choose from as well. Here are a few suggestions...

Grades 8-9



Grades 10-12

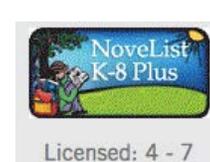


Grade 12

Your children may also be interested in accessing the many digital resources that the district offers. Click on the link below for quick access to these resources.

<https://www.surreyschools.ca/Search/pages/results.aspx?k=Search%2E%2E%2Edigital%20resources>

The graphics below show a few of the digital resources that are available to your children to help with their summer reading choices. Your children use the same name and password that they had during the school year. If this is their first time using these digital resources or if they have forgotten the user name and password, their classroom teacher or teacher-librarian can give it to them.



“Books are sometimes windows, offering vies of worlds that may be real or imagined, familiar or strange. These windows are also sliding glass doors, and readers only have to walk through in imagination to become part of whatever world has been created or recreated by the author.”

Bishop, R. 1990