



Bethesda Summer Reading Challenge

This year Bethesda Elementary is participating in the Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge. Your child will simply read a book of choice, digital book on My-on, the newspaper, or magazine articles and record their minutes on Scholastic's website.

1. First of all, what exactly *is* the **Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge**?

It's a free (and fun!) reading program that helps kids avoid the summer slide — the learning loss that can occur over summer break — by reading for enjoyment. Log minutes to unlock exclusive digital rewards and help donate books to kids in need across the country. The minutes you spend reading out loud to them counts, too! After you have completed the log complete this google form by September 6th.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfc1Ueh-nnSsO8ZpL4nuKY3ZdvpSnHbZpD5-kyD0UF3_3jIGw/viewform

2. How exactly will this program help prevent the summer slide?

The **Scholastic Kids & Family Reading Report, 7th Edition** shows the majority of kids (77%) and parents (94%) believe that summer reading can help kids during the school year. However, 20% percent of kids report reading zero books during the summer, and many may need a little guidance finding great books to read for fun (rather than ones that make reading seem like a chore). Studies show that when kids don't read over the summer, they lose core reading skills and fall behind when they return to school in the fall. Keeping kids reading over the summer helps them maintain and even enhance their skills in a variety of subjects.

3. What makes this year different from previous challenges?

This year, participants will have the opportunity to help kids around the country — just by reading! As kids enter their minutes online, a minute counter will keep track of their collective progress. When the total number of minutes read reaches 25 million, 50 million, and then 100 million minutes, Scholastic will donate books to kids in need across the country, and has pledged to give away at least 200,000 books by the end of summer.

4. How do I sign my child up?

Each child has already been registered through the school and has been assigned a user name and password. See attached slip of paper.

5. What's the benefit of having my child do the Challenge through school?

This year, the [Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge](#) will recognize one school in each state, territory (Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and the Northern Mariana Islands), and the District of Columbia, as well as the top 10 libraries and community partners with the most reading minutes. At the end of the summer, Scholastic will present each winning location with a "party-in-a-box" that will feature items for a school-wide Read-a-Palooza celebration: a personalized plaque, banner, and student certificates.

6. Is the website safe for kids?

Yes! Scholastic adheres to COPPA (Children's Online Privacy Protection Act) laws. Our website is completely safe for kids.

7. I need help finding books for my kids. Any suggestions?

Head over to the [Scholastic Read-a-Palooza Summer Reading Challenge](#) page to get started!