



2020 – 2021

READING LINK CHALLENGE

Teacher Newsletter

READING LINK CHALLENGE 2020-2021

Library staff are excited to offer RLC during the 2020-2021 school year. This year will look a little different but we're keeping the best parts: great books, teamwork and exciting challenges!

WHAT WILL THIS YEAR LOOK LIKE?

Library staff will work with you to book a virtual class visit to announce the RLC titles, or send a link to a video of RLC booktalks. We will send video links or schedule virtual visits in November and December.

As in previous years, your local library will donate a book set for each registered RLC team (up to 6 sets per school) to your school. Library staff will arrange contactless delivery of the books.

HOW WILL THE CHALLENGES RUN?

The RLC team is prepared to hold RLC challenges in a number of ways, dependent on physical distancing requirements and your school's capacity. Participants may complete challenges online, or have library staff video conference into your library or classroom to lead the challenge. We will work with you to organize RLC challenges in a way that makes sense for you and your students.

GOALS:

1. To promote a life-long love of reading.
2. To attract and maintain library customers.
3. To create and strengthen partnerships between libraries and local schools and community groups.
4. To enhance the reputation and value of libraries.



2018-2019 Grand Challenge Winners, Smart Doritos

TIPS FOR READING LINK TEAMS

- Encourage students to read or listen to as many books as they can.
- Remind students to pay attention to details and take notes.
- Create practice questions and hold practice challenges.
- Do assignments and activities based on the books.
- Read the books aloud in class.
- Encourage family members to read RLC books with participants.

RLC MISSION:

To encourage reading as a fun activity that allows grade 4 and 5 students of all reading abilities to engage in the sport of reading.

For more information visit: www.readinglinkchallenge.ca

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

1. Do students have to read all the books?

No. Some teams divide the books so that each member chooses one to know really well. Most students read at least three of the books many read all six.

2. Who selects the books?

A team of library staff from participating lower mainland libraries and volunteers from the University of the Fraser Valley (UFV) library technician program. We look for a set of books that includes wide gender appeal, varied reading level, positive reviews in library journals, multicultural themes, and Canadian/BC authors.

3. Who creates the questions?

UFV student volunteers write the questions. Library staff members edit questions. The questions include multiple choice, true or false, and short answer. A master list of questions is shared with participating libraries.

4. What if I am worried that the content of a book is too challenging for my students?

You can assign students to teams and make sure the teams have a mix of grades 4s and 5s, reading abilities and maturity levels. You may want to assign the harder books to readers that are more confident. Most RLC books are available from the public library as audiobooks.

5. What if a student with a print disability wants to participate?

Please encourage all students to participate! Most RLC books are available through NNELS (National Network for Equitable Library Service) and CELA (Centre for Equitable Library Access). NNELS and CELA provide free accessible formats (downloadable audiobooks, dyslexic friendly fonts, etc) to anyone with a print disability. A print disability is any learning, physical or visual disability that prevents a person from reading conventional print. These services are free and there are no wait lists. Talk to your local library for more information.

6. What commitment is required from participating schools?

Teacher or teacher-librarians need to recruit students and prepare them for challenges. Many teacher-librarians and teachers hold occasional meetings during lunchtime. Some teachers register all students in their class in RLC and devote class time to reading and preparing for the challenges.

Library staff members will work with you to arrange the events included in RLC. These include; book talk visit and book delivery and the challenges. Teachers need to communicate the schedule of events to students and parents.

7. What are the costs?

RLC is free! Your local library donates a set of 6 books to every team in the program. Many libraries set a maximum of 6 book sets per school. Often teacher-librarians will purchase additional copies of the books for the school library. Each book set is around \$38.

CHECK OUT:

Reading Link Challenge
www.readinglinkchallenge.ca

RLC TIMELINE

Registration Deadline:
NOVEMBER 5, 2020

*For more
information contact
your local library liaison.*

September 2020

Reading Link information package delivered to schools.

October 2020

Participating schools confirmed and books ordered.

November 2020

Announcement of titles and distribution of the Challenge books.

December 2020

Check on progress and begin scheduling School Challenges.

January 2021

Team members finalized.

Feb/Mar 2021

School and Library Challenges held.

May 2021

Grand Challenge between top teams each from, Coquitlam Public Library, Fraser Valley Regional Library, New Westminister Public Library, North Vancouver City Public Library, and Surrey Libraries.

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