

# 2020

## Premier's reading challenge

### School information kit



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# 2020 Premier's reading challenge



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### ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is an annual state-wide initiative for state and non-state schools and home-educated students up to Year 9, and children attending early childhood centres. Over the past 14 years, more than 14 million books have been read, and in 2019 alone, 168,000 school, early childhood and individual readers participated in the challenge with more than 2.31 million books read throughout the PRC reading period.

The challenge is not a competition but aims to improve literacy and encourage children to read widely for pleasure and learning. Students can participate in the challenge within their school or as individual readers (home-educated students or students whose schools are not participating in the program).

For a student to successfully complete the challenge they must read or experience the allocated number of books for their year level during the reading period. Students who complete the challenge have their efforts recognised through the receipt of a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier of Queensland.

### Why read?

Literacy skills are vital to ensuring children have the best chance to succeed in their schooling and life. The PRC is an opportunity for students to be enthusiastic about reading, writing, authors and illustrators. Reading a variety of books builds vocabulary and knowledge, improves spelling and comprehension, can improve confidence and is also a great way to relax.

### Key dates

Date	Activity
W/c 27 April 2020	Registration opens for schools via the PRC database
11 May 2020	Reading commences for Prep – Year 9 students
28 August 2020	Reading finishes for Prep – Year 9 students Student reader record forms submitted to schools
28 August – 4 September 2020	Student reading achievements entered into the PRC database
October 2020	Certificates of Achievement mailed to schools Certificate of Participation available for download
2 – 13 November 2020	PRC Celebration Weeks

### Reading requirements

While there is no compulsory reading list for the challenge, book lists have been developed in conjunction with the Department of Education's (DoE) Reading Centre and the Global schools through languages team (State Schools – Performance), to help students, teachers, parents and guardians select age appropriate reading material. The book lists are available on the [Premier's Reading Challenge website](#) and have been divided into year level groups.

Students are encouraged to select a range of fiction and non-fiction books suited to their reading ability. Students are welcome to read books from previous years' book lists and from lists for other year levels.

Book titles are also available in Chinese, French, German Indonesian, Italian and Japanese. Students learning languages from Prep (or students with a family background in a language other than English) can choose to read or experience any books in additional languages to English as part of the challenge. Books in additional languages are not in year-level groups.

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Language teachers will be able to make decisions about appropriate books for students at their schools based on their understanding of students' level of language learning and their interests.

To successfully complete the PRC, students must read or experience the number of books indicated in the table below in English or additional languages. The requirement for Year 5 through to Year 9 students to read 15 books acknowledges that older students are likely to select longer, more complex books that may take them longer to read.

Year level	Number of books
Prep – Year 2	Read or experience 20 books
Years 3 – 4	20 books
Years 5 – 9	15 books

If they have time, students are welcome to read more books than the challenge requirements. They just need to record them on another [reader record form](#). All books will go towards Queensland's total PRC tally.

The following activities can be counted towards the challenge:

- reading independently
- shared reading
- being read to (Prep – Year 2 for books written in English; and all year levels for additional languages).

The following literature forms can be counted towards the challenge:

- printed books
- e-books, virtual books and digital publications
- graphic novels and comic books
- audio and braille books
- newspapers, magazines and recipe books
- books in additional languages (other than English).

## Certificates and prizes

Certificates of Achievement will be mailed to schools in October

Schools with 100% participation and schools that have been part of the challenge since its inception in 2006 will be in the running for lucky draw prizes from PRC program sponsors.

## Celebration weeks

Schools are encouraged to celebrate student reading achievements by holding classroom or school celebrations.

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## TIPS FOR PARTICIPATION

### Encouraging students to read

Parents, guardians, teachers, aides, siblings, student buddies and classmates play an important role in encouraging students to develop a love of reading. Some ideas to consider are:

- make time to read each day – ensure this time is fun and exciting
- suggest books, authors or themes your students may enjoy
- retell stories that you have enjoyed
- ask students to make book recommendations to others in class
- for students with language backgrounds other than English, encourage them to read books in their background language/s. Your local public library may have books available in additional languages and/or may be able to source books in additional languages to meet the needs of your community. The Brisbane School of Distance Education's Languages library may also be able to assist with loans of books on the additional languages book lists.

### Encouraging students to participate in the challenge

#### Promote the challenge within your school

- Distribute the letter available from the PRC website to parents/guardians
- Place a list or display books from the PRC book list in the library
- Create displays of favourite books, authors, series, genres in the library and classrooms
- Share stories of student reading success in assembly and school newsletter
- Download and print the bookmark from the PRC website for students
- Include a link to the PRC book lists on the school website to assist parents/guardians.

#### Schedule PRC events

- Invite an author, athlete, staff member, politician or parents/guardians to school assembly to speak about their favourite book
- Organise a student book swap party – children bring a book and select a book from the swap table
- Schools without an early years language program could invite the Years 5 and 6 language teacher or students to read to classes in the target language offered at the school.

#### Student competitions and prizes

While the PRC is not a competition, some schools may wish to run whole school, year level, class or individual student competitions. Some ideas include:

- first student, class or year level to complete challenge etc.
- best alternative cover for a book
- best book review – best in each year level, class or school
- best alternative blurb written in one, two or three sentences
- in-class author biographies, book reviews/presentations – peer rated.

Students who complete the challenge will receive a Certificate of Achievement. Additional prizes schools could offer students might include:

- free dress day for winning year level or class
- lunchtime movie (related to a book)
- book-related treasure hunt
- bring your favourite board game to school (for sessions in class/library at lunchtime)
- extra PE/music/library/computing session
- sausage sizzle/class party
- other prizes donated from local businesses.

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## Entering book titles in additional languages on the PRC School reader record form

Each of the book titles in additional languages includes the title of each book in English. Please record, or assist the students to record, the title and author in English and include the language for the book read.

### Premier's reading challenge School reader record form

Student name: John Smith Teacher name: Ms Brown  
 School: Abercorn State School Year level: 2 Gender: Male

Book number	Book title	Author	Language (please tick)
1	The Very Hungry Caterpillar	Eric Carle	<input type="checkbox"/> English <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Other: Japanese
2			<input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
3			<input type="checkbox"/> English <input type="checkbox"/> Other:
			<input type="checkbox"/> English

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### School reader record form

Student name: <i>Jane Smith</i>		Teacher name: <i>Mr Wotton</i>	
School: <i>Hillcrest Christian College</i>		Year level: <i>9</i>	Gender: <i>Female</i>
Book number	Book title	Author	Language (please delete one option)
1	<i>The Boy in Striped Pyjamas</i>	<i>John Boyne</i>	• English • <del>Other</del>
2			• English • Other:
3			• English • Other:



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## LINKS AND RESOURCES

PRC website: <https://readingchallenge.education.qld.gov.au/>

PRC database: <https://prc.median.com.au/>

DoE Reading Centre: <https://ahrc.eq.edu.au/>

DoE eBooks Digital Library:  
<https://intranet.qed.qld.gov.au/Services/InformationTechnology/elearning-training/eresource-services/ebooks/Pages/default.aspx>

State Library of Queensland: <http://www.slq.qld.gov.au/resources>

The Children's Book Council of Australia: <http://cbca.org.au>

DoE literacy fact sheets: <https://education.qld.gov.au/parents/Documents/factsheet-l-n.pdf#search=literacy>

Brisbane School of Distance Education library (for loans of books in additional languages):  
<https://brisbanesde.eq.edu.au/Supportandresources/discovery-centre/Pages/LOTE.aspx>

## Queensland public libraries

With over 300 public libraries in Queensland, locate a [library](#) near you and visit their website for online resources.

## Book suggestions from other state PRC programs

New South Wales: <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>

South Australia:  
<http://www.premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/prc/pages/books/challenge/?reFlag=1>

Victoria: <http://www.education.vic.gov.au/about/events/prc/Pages/booklist.aspx>

## FURTHER INFORMATION

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