



# Reading Is Soooooooooooooo Delicious!

## 2012 DoD MWR Report



# Overview

Developing readers and supporting lifelong learning are central to the MWR Library mission and to our goal of enriching the lives of our servicemen and women and their families.

The Department of Defense-coordinated Summer Reading Program (SRP) is a centerpiece of MWR Library activities. In collaboration with iREAD, we are ensuring librarians have shared professional resources so that families have access to high-quality programming that is consistent from base to base. The response to this initiative has been very positive. Reading rates are up, media coverage is positive and prolific, and families are praising the program and staff.



Army

Storytime at Fort Polk Joint Readiness Training Center.



Mrs. Sophia Vega is leading the charge. Working on counting (the kids counted their jumping jacks and how many times they could hop on one leg) and our ABCs, at JB Anacostia Bolling MWR.

Navy

**THEIR FACES TELL THE STORY:** A group of military children look on in laughter and awe as Magician Jeff Jones dazzles the crowd at the grand finale of the summer reading program at Marston Pavilion aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Aug. 3.



Children sit and listen to a story in the library June 20, 2012, at Moody Air Force Base, Ga. Story time is aimed at children as young as 3 years old to get them interested in reading at a young age. (U.S. Air Force photo by Airman 1st Class Jarrod Grammel/Released)



Air Force

**DOD MWR LIBRARIES  
SUMMER READING  
PROGRAM**

*on Bases and Military Installations Worldwide*

**2012**

**Across all branches,  
a new record:**

**13.2 million  
minutes read**



Marine Corps



**Naval Support Facilities Dahlgren  
and Indian Head**

## Healthy Habits

With the theme “Eat Healthy, Move Around and Read for Fun” as part of this year’s program, several base and installation libraries teamed up with others to promote good nutrition and exercise as part of their summer activities. The Arden G. Hill Memorial Library on the Malmstrom Air Force Base, for example, collaborated with its Health and Wellness Center (HAWC) and Youth Programs.

“We encouraged the kids to sign up for the Youth Programs’ Fit Factor, (and) those that signed up could also do our Fitness Time tracking. We had a story time once a week, and a fitness time each Friday afternoon. The kids played games, such as the Food Pyramid Game, then they went outside and did calisthenics. I know the kids had a blast!” said Librarian ‘Dixie’ Linda K. Paronto.

The HAWC also put up a display on nutrition, had handouts for kids and parents, and helped with pre-school story time. The program finale was held at the Youth Center’s gym, where the kids played games, tested their strength, and got their face painted. Children ages 2 to 16 recorded both the time they spent getting fit, as well as the amount of reading they did.

Camp Lejeune teamed up with the Onslow County Extension to make “Hungry Caterpillar” pizzas. “We came up with the idea to have the kids create mini, no-bake pizzas out of multigrain flatbread rounds, cheese and sauce,” Supervising Librarian Jan Guitar explained. “Kids like to play with their food so why not throw some vegetables in with it?” Sliced olives provided eyes, carrot slivers made antennae, and red pepper completed the mouth.



**Joint Base Anacostia Bolling**

# Lifelong Learning

The MWR Libraries Summer Reading Program promotes reading for all ages and encourages both early literacy among children under five and school readiness. Participants range from toddlers to teens to busy parents—each receiving age-appropriate book suggestions, activities and prizes. While the focus is on fun, these library activities have serious impacts.

For the youngest participants, reading aloud is essential for brain development and school readiness. Children who are read to three times a week or more do much better in later development than children who are read to less than three times a week. Researchers have found that early literacy development has a strong correlation with children's future academic achievement. Our

library reading programs make a difference.

For school-age students, we know students typically score lower on standardized tests at the end of summer vacation than they do on the same tests at the beginning of the summer. Of even greater concern, summer reading loss is cumulative. Children don't "catch up" in fall because the other children are moving ahead with their skills. National research from Dominican University finds students who participate in public library summer reading programs scored higher on reading achievement tests at the beginning of the next school year than those who did not participate.

And for adults, reading can be a healthy break from serious responsibilities, as well as a family activity that supports lifelong learning.

*"We absolutely love this program. My girls love to read, but this program really motivated them. My seven year-old increased in her reading ability specifically because of this program. I also loved it myself—please continue this program."*



**Edwards Air Force Base**



**Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek Ft. Story**



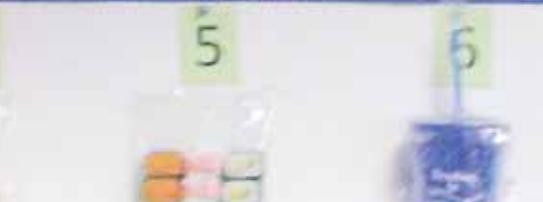
**Joint Base Charleston**



**Moody Air Force Base**



**Andrews Air Force Base**



**Edwards Air Force Base**

## Air Force

“We have been swamped today,” said Sarah Wolfe, the Andrews Air Force Base library technician on the opening day of the program. “I think the summer reading program is the most fun to have in the summer because reading is entertaining and keeps learning fresh throughout the summer season.”

“This wonderful program is an asset to the community,” said Sheryl Gritton, supervisory librarian. “I have witnessed kindergartners learn to read before school begins. I have also seen international people who can’t speak English become much more proficient by the end of the summer because they’ve been read to so much.”



**Joint Region Marianas-Andersen**



**Edwards Air Force Base**



**Edwards Air Force Base**



**Joint Region Marianas-Andersen**



**Eglin Air Force Base**



**Shaw Air Force Base**



**Yokota Air Force Base**



**Edwards Air Force Base**



**Edwards Air Force Base**



**Eglin Air Force Base**



**Edwards Air Force Base**

# Army

“I love reading and I plan on reading as many books as I can this summer,” said one Camp Casey participant who will be entering 9th grade in the fall. “No matter what you are reading it makes you smarter.”

“Her favorite book that she likes me to read is ‘Are You My Mother’ by Dr. Seuss, because she likes that it has all the different animals,” said one Camp Casey parent. “I like reading to her because it increases her vocabulary, which is very important to me.”



**US Army Garrison Hohenfels**



**US Army Garrison Hohenfels**



**US Army Hawaii Libraries**



**US Army Hawaii Libraries**



**US Army Garrison Grafenwoehr**



**US Army Hawaii Libraries**



At Camp Casey's Gateway Club June 28, Raymond Meyers, Deputy Garrison CDR, US Army Camp Casey, reads "The Cow Loves Cookies" as part of the kickoff celebration for the Area I Summer Reading Program. The year's theme is "Reading is so Delicious." U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jeff Troth

An Army Wife's Blog:  
**The Daily Details | Creating a Rich Life One Post at a Time | Fitness, Food, Family, Fun**  
<http://www.thedailydetails.com/2012/07/summer-reading-program-project-reading.html>



**Fort Polk  
 Joint Readiness Training Center**



**US Army Garrison Hohenfels**

# Marine Corps

90% of Yuma Marine Corps Station participants "REALLY liked" the 2012 program.

"Our purpose in being here is to meet the needs of the family members of Navy and Marine personnel," said Jana Guitar, program supervisor at the Camp Lejeune base library. "It fills a lovely gap for things that children can do during the summer and also helps them to continue reading."

One Camp Lejeune parent set a 600-minute reading minimum for her three children, who were not very interested in reading. By summer's end, the children had doubled the minimum and are now "hooked" on reading.



**Yuma Marine Corps Station**



**MCCS Okinawa**



**Marine Corps Air Combat Ground Center,  
Twentynine Palms**



Magician Jeff Jones walks down an aisle between children at the grand finale for the summer reading program at Marston Pavilion aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Aug. 3. Jones loves to interact with his audience and decided to find an unsuspecting member for his next magically comical act. (Photo by Pfc. Joshua Grant)



**Marine Corps Base  
Camp Lejeune**

Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune



A military child looks on with laughter and awe as Magician Jeff Jones dazzles the crowd at the grand finale of the summer reading program at Marston Pavilion aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Aug. 3. Jones' act thrilled the audience with disappearing birds, magic wands and even a rat. (Photo by Pfc. Joshua Grant)



## Navy

"I love the program. My children are reading every night, they each pick out one autobiography, and they have to present a book report (2 pages) every Sunday. We are at the library every week. I am glad that the kids are having fun and enjoying reading. I also utilize the E-books, CDs, and computers for myself. So grateful for the program and the library."

"Our family discovered Tumblebooks! It is now part of our nightly routine to read two Tumblebooks. Also, Mom has realized that she can make time to read and she really enjoys it!"



**Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam**



NAS JRB Fort Worth hosts Lunch at the Library as part of Reading is Sooooo Delicious. Nurse Bonnie from Base Medical and nutritionist Mrs. Bennett presented healthy eating tips including resources from choosemyplate.gov.

“The reading program helped my five-year-old start to learn how to read. My seven year-old found a new author he enjoyed.”

“Reading has brought fun and exciting worlds into our lives. We have become in love with books.”

“My kids enjoyed reading non-fiction books this summer. It was great! It also got them away from the Wii, which was even better. Thanks for having the reading program!

“The kids have enjoyed laughing at the funny stories from the books they read and everywhere we went they took books to read. Less TV time.”



**Naval Support Facilities Dahlgren and Indian Head**



**NAS JRB Fort Worth**



**Joint Base Pearl Harbor Hickam**



Al Womble, high chief of the Cheyenne Tribe of Mardi Gras Indians, led a program of stories, and activities covering the history of the Mardi Gras Indians and volunteers from the audience get in on the act at NAS JRB New Orleans.



CS1 Vanhorn explained how they prepare hundreds of meals a day for the military personnel. We saw huge mixing bowls, fresh rolls rising, very large and very cold freezers, plus lots more! – at NAS Ft Worth JRB.

# Family Time

From parent at Pearl Harbor-Hickam: "You guys are doing great job with a fun and exciting summer reading program. You have really motivated my reader to read more -- but more importantly you have motived my "non-reader" to read, read, read! I am thrilled!!! MAHALO for a great job!!"

IMPROVED READING: "It has kept my eight-year-old busy reading all summer. He has progressed to longer chapter books and is always reading something before bedtime."

"It kept me reading all summer so when I go back to school I am ready."

"The ability to track progress over the weeks encouraged my children to continually strive to improve the amount read."

"The activities at the library gave us something fun to look forward to do with more than just the family!"

"The summer reading program has encouraged my keiki (Hawaiian for child) to read, read, and read some more. They looked forward to frequent trips to the library and unbeknownst to them improved both reading fluency and comprehension."

LESS TV/VIDEO GAMES: "The boys look forward to going to the library and getting more books. A lot less time watching TV or video games."

"More time to bond with my children while reading to them. Also, I learned a lot from books I read."

"It [Reading is so Delicious] helped establish "reading time" in our house again. Fun and great program! Thanx!"



**US Army Garrison Hohenfels**



**Joint Base Anacostia Bolling**



**Marine Corps Base  
Camp Lejeune**



**Joint Expeditionary Base Little  
Creek Ft. Story**



**Andrews Air Force Base**

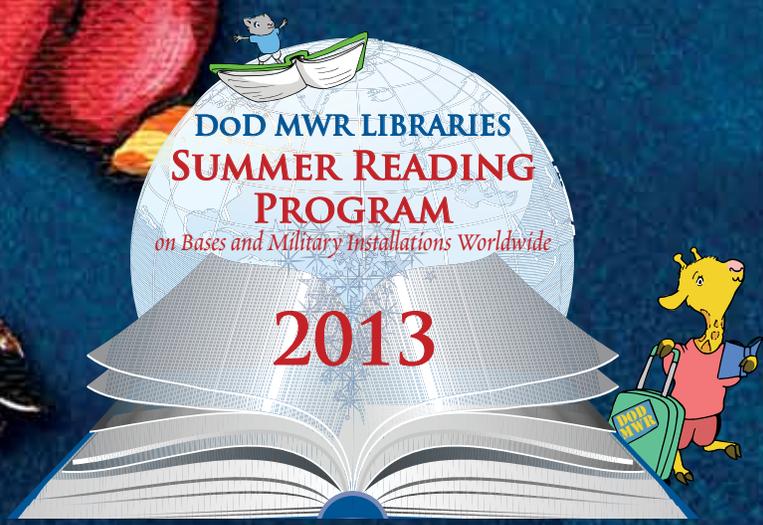
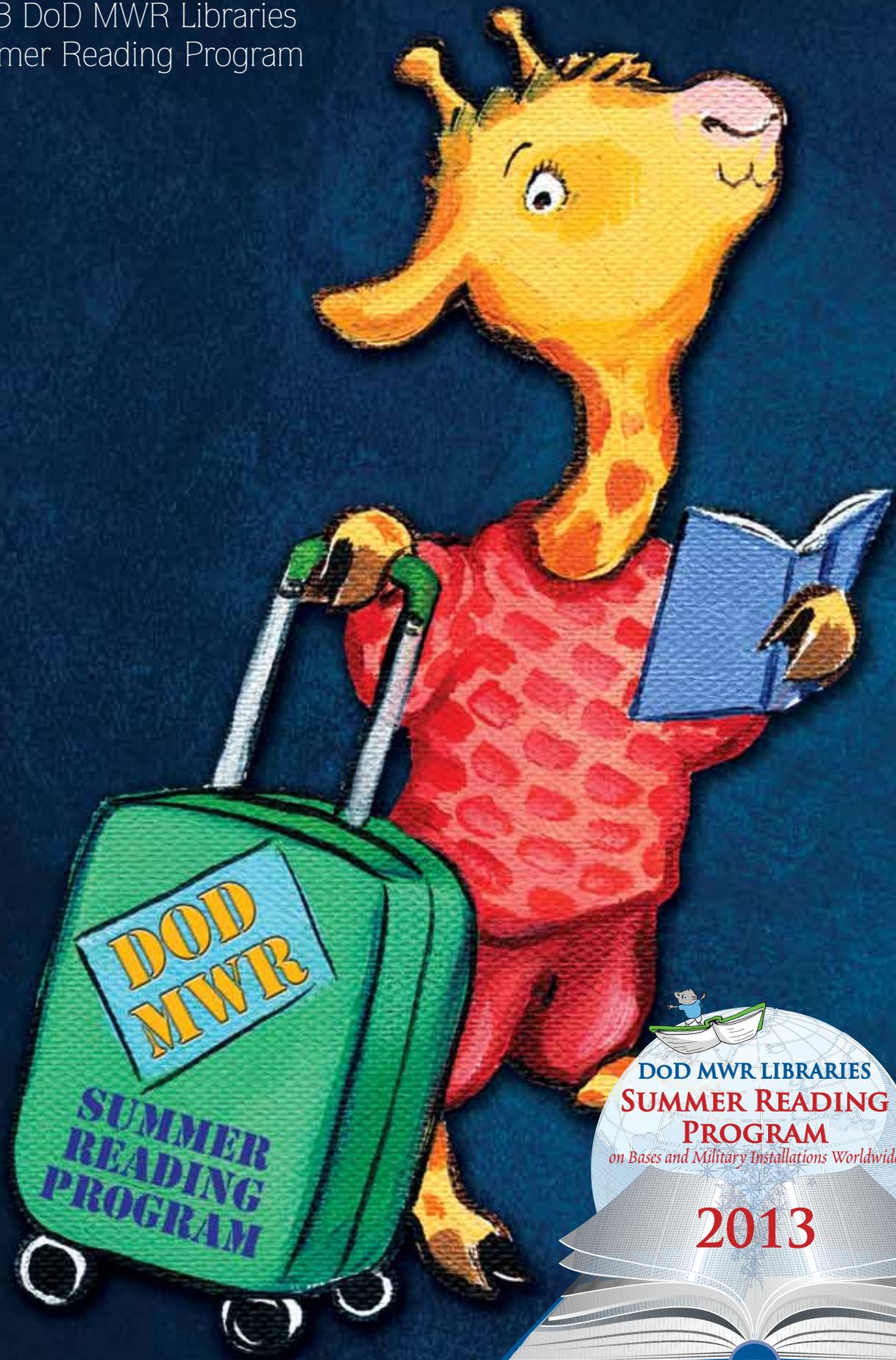


**Andrews Air Force Base**



# Have Book—Will Travel!

2013 DoD MWR Libraries  
Summer Reading Program



**DOD MWR LIBRARIES  
SUMMER READING  
PROGRAM**  
*on Bases and Military Installations Worldwide*

**2013**

[www.ila.org/dodsumread](http://www.ila.org/dodsumread)