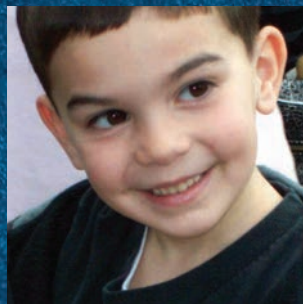


Have Book—Will Travel!



2013 DoD·MWR
Summer Reading Annual Report



From *Peter Rabbit* to the *Wizard of Oz* to *The Hobbit*, books and reading transport us to other worlds and experiences. Sharing and developing a love of reading is one of the most important gifts we can give our children.





The 2013 theme for the Department of Defense-coordinated summer reading program—*Have Book Will Travel*—was tailor-made for our military families on the move. Close to 60,000 readers responded this year to the challenge to journey to another place, another time, another life through more than 2.2 million pages.

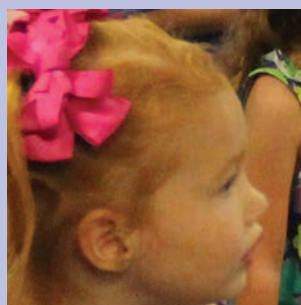


2013 DoD • MWR
Summer Reading

BY THE NUMBERS

Library summer reading programs make a difference. They help children and teens retain and enhance their reading skills during the summer. They help adults model reading activity for youth. And they provide a haven and a community for readers.

14.6 MILLION
MINUTES READ
(ALMOST 28 YEARS)—
1.4 MILLION MORE THAN LAST YEAR!



2.2 MILLION
PAGES READ

318,871
BOOKS READ





Summer Reading and the Military Family

“A conservative estimate of lost instructional time is approximately two months or roughly 22 percent of the school year. It’s common for teachers to spend at least a month re-teaching material that students have forgotten over the summer.”

—National Summer Learning Association



Students score higher in reading and math in the fall when they participate in Summer Reading Programs.



DoD•MWR Summer Reading promotes

- Family time—for all ages
- DoD•MWR Installation Libraries as a resource for learning and fun
- A lifelong love of reading

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.

Here's what parents, children, and librarians have to say about the DoD summer reading program:

“I REALLY LIKE THAT MY CHILD CAN HANG OUT WITH OTHER KIDS, WHILE READING BOOKS DURING SUMMER BREAK.”

“I love that we read so many books. He loves the pictures most of all, and Dr. Seuss is his favorite. I try to read to him every day, and the library helps get him out of the house and into a new environment.”

“There was a man that came with a robotics demonstration and my kids loved that. They actually participated in a robotics camp because of that.”

“I like to read adventure books,” said 5-year-old Julien. “I like lots of books, and I want to read more. I’ve read ten already with help from my mom. She helps me read a lot, because I still have to learn to read. But I’m learning.”

“It’s been a great experience. There’s not a lot going on over the summer and it’s a great incentive for the kids to keep reading during the summer. My kids are excited to come to the library and get more and more books so they can put them on their list.”

“It’s not just something to do for the summer, hopefully it makes them want to keep reading for the rest of their lives.”

“HAVE BOOK—WILL TRAVEL RESONATES WITH MILITARY FAMILIES WHO REALLY ARE ON THE MOVE AND A BOOK CAN BE A VIRTUAL ADVENTURE OR A COMFORTING PLACE WHILE TRAVELING THE WORLD.”





*"The more that you read,
the more things you will know.
The more that you learn,
the more places you'll go."*
—Dr. Seuss



*"I am a part of
everything that
I have read."*
—Theodore
Roosevelt



U.S. Air Force photo by Rebecca Amber





Air Force

Whiteman AFB set a new library record with more than 340 youth registrations, up 28% from the year before. Total attendance in the reading program neared 1,000 participants.



More than 1,100 children and adults attended nine programs—including the Lego Challenge—over the summer at USAG Bavaria-Tower Barracks Library.



Annemarie Navarro, military spouse, said that she tried to bring her children to as many of the summer reading events as possible. She has taken her children to similar programs in Germany and Korea before her husband was stationed at Edwards Air Force Base (from aerotechnews.com).



The Blue Aces band entertained more than 150 children and their families for the Groninger Library Summer Reading Program Finale at Joint Base Langley-Eustis.



Army



USAG Hohenfels took creativity to the max with participants making their own cars to enjoy a drive-in movie in the Turnbull Memorial library.



Camp Humphreys drew almost 100 people to their kickoff summer reading event. "The biggest indicator of literacy is not how much they read, but how well they are engaged," said Michelle Infusino, Summer Reading Program Manager for the library.





U.S. Army Garrison Humphreys, South Korea



Marines

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar drew a crowd to its story time. "I love it," said Jennalyn Gan, a library technician. "It's nice to have a big group to read for. Then after story time, I pick a craft based on the books that I read to them."



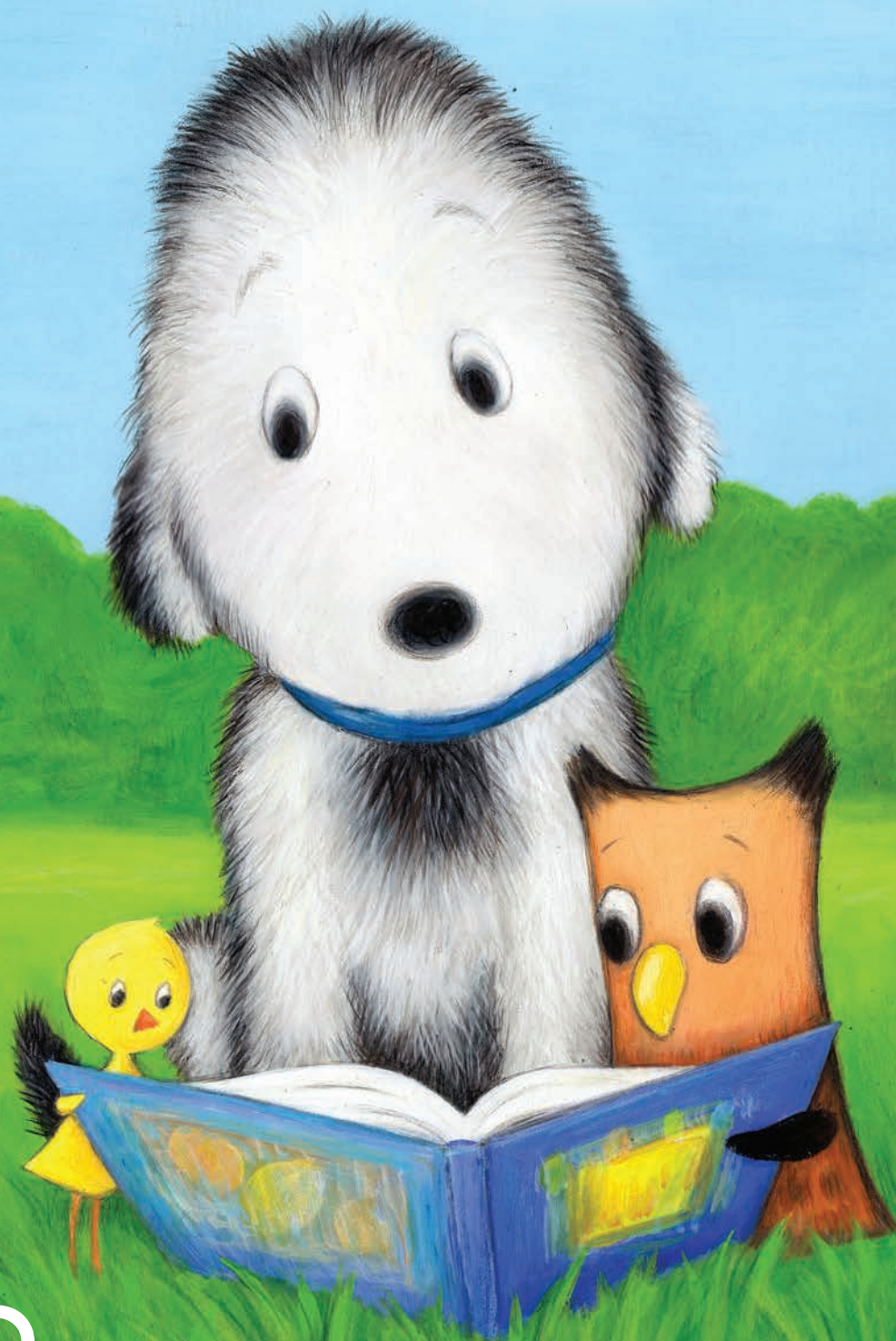
Navy

"Our kids have loved reading, going to the library, picking out their books, so we just keep doing it over the summer, and this program makes it more fun for them," said Dawn Watts, attending one of the activities with her daughter, Lila, at the Yokosuta Base Library.





GET READY FOR 2014 SUMMER READING
with
PAWS TO READ!



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