

Read to the Rhythm



2015 DoD•MWR

Summer Reading Annual Report



Overview



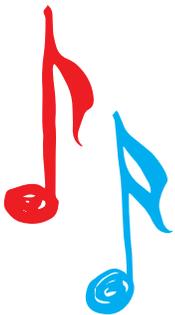
2015 DoD–MWR
Summer Reading Program Totals

249,721 books read

2,547,559 pages read

41,730,518 minutes read*

* THE EQUIVALENT OF 79½ YEARS



Mothers and fathers
join their children to
Read to the Rhythm!

ARMY



Fort Jackson



Peterson Air Force Base



Reading, musical demonstrations and experimentation bring Read to the Rhythm to life.

AIR FORCE



Scott Air Force Base



MARINE CORPS



Marine Corps Recruit Depot

Marine Corps Air Station Miramar

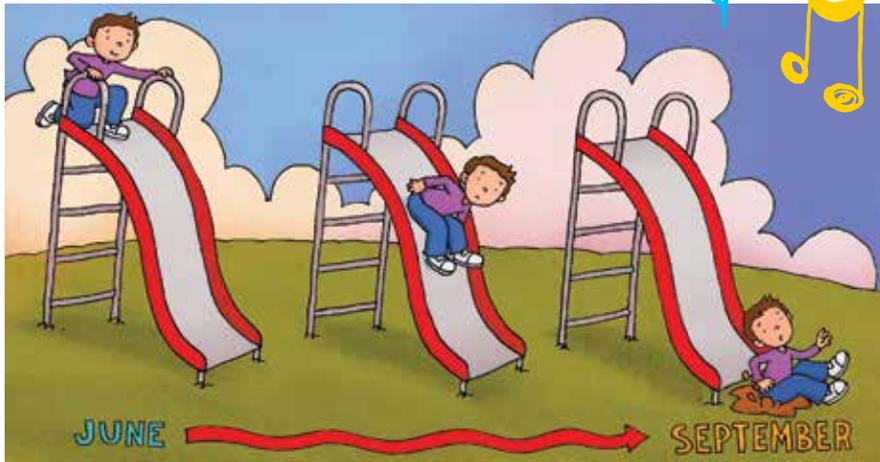


Naval Air Facility Atsugi

NAVY

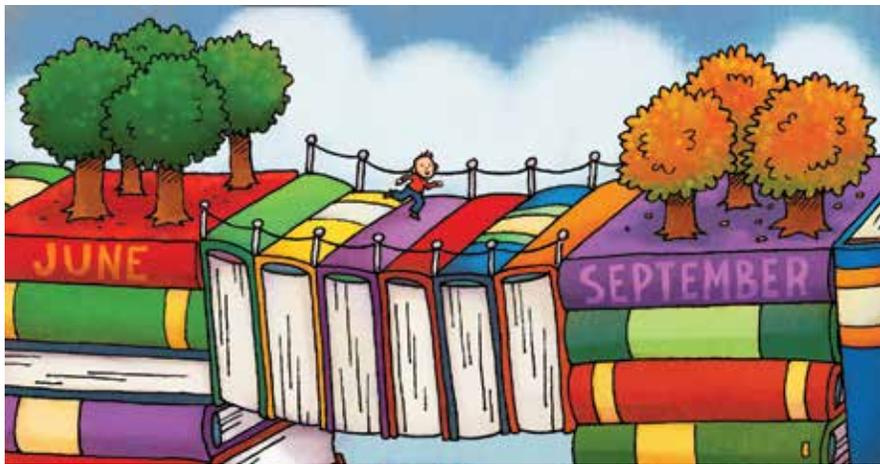


Why Summer Reading is Important



Prevent “Summer Slide”

Children who don’t read during the summer can lose up to two months of learning by the time they return to school in the fall.



Build a Bridge

Children who participate in Summer Reading Programs and read a minimum of six books over the summer score higher in reading AND math when they return to school.



Summer Reading Facts

The benefits of summer reading are clear. National research from Dominican University finds that 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.

Parents of children enrolled in the public library summer reading program reported that their children spent more time reading over the summer, read more books, were well prepared for school in the fall, and read more confidently.

Young people experience learning losses when they don’t engage in educational activities during the summer. Research spanning 100 years shows that 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. Libraries are part of the solution.

To succeed in school and life, children and young adults need ongoing opportunities to learn and practice essential skills. Summer Reading Club reminds kids that reading is for fun—as well as for learning.

There’s so much to see, so much to do at your library! There’s no better place to take your kids. The library is a place to learn, read, and have fun...a place the whole family can enjoy. In fact, more than 82 million children attend library programs every year in the U.S.

Studies show that children who are read to in the home and who use the library perform better in school and are more likely to continue to use the library as a source of lifetime learning.

The amount of time children spend reading outside of school is linked to gains in reading achievement. Numerous studies show that access to books and magazines is directly related to higher reading achievement.

The Power of Music

“Music, movement, and books are a natural fit.” –Maggie Thomann, 2015 iREAD Chair

“Brain research has shown that there is a clear link between experiencing the tone, melody, and lyrics of music, and the process of acquiring early literacy. Further, the ability to move to a beat has been shown to improve language learning and reading.”

–*Journal of Neuroscience*

“It has been shown that musical activity can stimulate the brain for better focus, concentration, and memory all the way through older adulthood.”

–*The Relation Between Instrumental Musical Activity and Cognitive Aging*

**Brenda Hanna-Pladdy and Alicia MacKay
University of Kansas Medical Center**

“When you move in rhythm, it does a lot for your brain, which can be directly linked to reading,” said Rachel Dugan, a dancer and mother of two, as told to the *Fort Leavenworth Lamp*. “I also think I have boys who are more energetic but different from some girls that will just sit down and read. My boys are more active and want to run around a lot, so I think (Read to the Rhythm) is a nice theme to connect that energetic type of thing to reading.”

Her son Josh adds that playing music has helped him in school. “It’s taught me how to read notes and helped me more in math.”

–*Fort Leavenworth Lamp*

“We had a drum circle with over 60 children in attendance. The noise was amazing in the library...but no one said, ‘Shhhh!’ Adults and children enjoyed this event,”

**–Brandy L. Jeschonek-Stevens, Library director,
Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story**

“The fun aspect of summer reading for kids is being able to read titles they choose, that they may not have had time for during the year, or delve more deeply into a subject they want to learn more about.”

–Phyllis Frenzel, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickam
Library director

“I would encourage (other military families) to participate because it is free; it is a way to engage your kids in a fun and academic way; it helps build bonding relationships between parents and children; and it makes the library a fun place to be—which helps to solidify positive feelings and attitudes towards learning for the future.”

–Navy spouse and mom of three, Jolene Callahan

“It’s unorthodox in a library setting. Children will be learning about music, reading about music, and we’re going to try to entertain them with music. We will be entertaining the children with stories about music and musical artists.”

– Amos Tookes, librarian, Marine Corps Logistics Base
Albany

“It was loud, but the kids had a blast!”

**–Wendy Newell, Reference Librarian, Robert C. McEwen
Library, Fort Drum**



AIR FORCE



Mitchell Memorial/Travis Air Force Base

“Every week we have a Pre-K story time and crafts. The first week the children made guitars, the second week they made bell bracelets, and the third week they made xylophones with pretzel drum sticks. We still have 3 weeks left of the program and have a bunch of fun activities planned.”

—Elizabeth Fernandez, Library Technician



Edwards Air Force Base



This year, 457 participants read a total of 19,264 books.



Edwards Air Force Base
photo credit:
Rebecca Amber

Yokota Air Force Base



ARMY



Fort Leonard Wood



Fort Leonard Wood, Soldier Show

“We loved having the special story time with the Soldier Show folks. It was very interactive with the kids. We had at least 95 people, with children of all ages and a variety of parents, caregivers and grandparents.”

—Joyce A. Waybright, Chief, Community Services,
Bruce C. Clarke Library, Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri



Fort Campbell

Fort Campbell offers fun, learning for kids

Summer reading is a wonderful program. It helps prevent a decline in reading skills. It helps children stay on reading level in between the end of the old and start of the new school year,” said Jackie Downs, reference librarian. “We hope that by participating in our activities, they have fun and learn new things and learn to love the library. Or enhance their love of the library.”

Fort Campbell’s first summer event featured the 101st Airborne Division Band reading and performing a music-themed story for children.

“The library is very excited about this year’s theme, which allows us to offer unique and dynamic programming in synergy with our colleagues at Estep Wellness Center and the 101st Airborne Division Band,” Downs said. “It has been a delight working with them, and we look forward to seeing the patrons enjoy the programs where we have collaborated.”

To engage the patrons in more health-conscious activities, instructors from Estep Wellness Center taught Zumba and Yoga to patrons of all ages.

—Fort Campbell Courier





Drum Safari caps summer reading program

Fifty-five children drummed their way through a West African safari July 31 at the Ike Skelton Combined Arms Research Library (CARL).
by Prudence Siebert, *Fort Leavenworth Lamp*

The interactive music performance was the final extravaganza to the CARL summer reading program. The 2015 Department of Defense Morale, Welfare and Recreation Libraries Summer Reading Program, "Read to the Rhythm," which kicked off May 29, focused on dance, rhythm, music and movement and encouraged children to read by incorporating entertaining and educational events throughout the summer.

Kelsey Reed, chief of circulation at CARL, said that by July 1 there were more than 500 hours of reading turned in for the summer reading program. Another 500 hours is expected for July.

"That's really, really wonderful," Reed said. "We had phenomenal participation."

The summer reading program positively affected families on Fort Leavenworth in different ways, Reed said. Every week during the program, library staff hid wrapped books in the children's section. Whoever found the books got to keep them.

She recalled a couple who had just moved to post from England and didn't have household goods yet. They had a little boy about a year old, who won a book with a music and read-along CD.

"His mom was so excited," Reed said. "She was like, 'We don't have anything. Our household goods haven't arrived yet. This is perfect.

We can use it.' She was just thrilled they had something to entertain their little one. That kind of made it for me."

Drum Safari business owner, Brandon Draper, and longtime friend, Amy Hearting, both of whom have master's degrees in percussion performance, led the Drum Safari performance.

The pair taught those attending the performance about the different instruments they used, including the West African drums, the djembe and the dunun, and a forerunner of the piano, the balafone. They used call and response and taught different rhythms and songs about different animals found in Africa including an elephant, zebra, crocodile, monkey and lion. Then they passed out small handheld drums and music shakers for the children to play along with them.

"We're so excited to be here," Draper said. "We are from Kansas. We grew up in Kansas. We grew up just like you going to the library, learning about cool stuff. We found out at the library we could read about music. We could read about instruments, and we decided drums were the coolest thing for us. So then we learned everything we could about it from the library, and we grew up and started taking lessons, and then we went to camp."

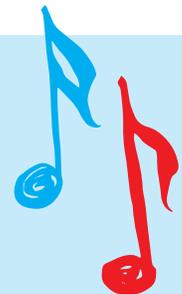
—See more at: <http://www.ftleavenworthlamp.com/article/20150806/NEWS/150809669/?tag=1#sthash.RUBtlc6d.dpuf>



"Our focus is to really keep kids in the library so they keep reading," said Kelsey Reed, chief of circulation at CARL. "Statistics show that kids' reading levels can drop just over one summer if they don't continue reading while they're out of school, so it's really, really important for kids to participate in programs like this either here or at Leavenworth Public or Lansing Community Library."

"There are a lot of great books involved with music, rhythm, poetry and verse, so it's all kind of interrelated," said Mary Kent, librarian and volunteer at the Ike Skelton Combined Arms Research Library. "It's such a universal theme that I feel like it draws in a lot of kids in a lot of different ages. I think that's what is really good about this one because I think sometimes it appeals to just the younger kids; music appeals to all ages here and they are all enjoying learning about the different instruments and voting (for their favorite instrument), doing the craft. I think when you can draw in as many children as possible that's always the goal."

—*Fort Leavenworth Lamp*



Army Garrison Yongsan



Fort Bragg



MARINE CORPS

Camp Lejeune

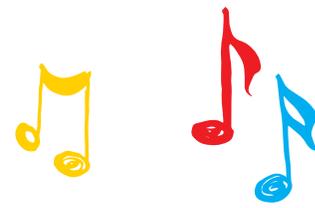


Music filled the air as children celebrated the kick-off to the Lejeune-New River libraries' Summer Reading Program with "Read to the Rhythm." Children and adults alike clapped along to the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band sounds. Some children even danced around their seats and helped the Marines sing along to songs like "Oh Hey, Oh Hi, Hello."

"(The Summer Reading Program) keeps my kids busy," said Miranda Martinez, a

participant at Read to the Rhythm at Camp LeJeune. "And I'm an avid reader so I'd like for them to be avid readers as well. It keeps the imagination active."

—The Lejeune Globe



Participants in the 2015 Summer Reading Program listen to the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing Band play during 'Read to the Rhythm' at the Base Theater aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune Friday. The event served as the kick-off celebration to this year's Summer Reading Program.

Photo credit: Brook Leonard

Camp Pendleton



Congratulations to Camp Pendleton Libraries for achieving the largest participation in the USMC with a total of 2,696 registrants; 1,820 children, 331 teens and 545 adults!



Marine Corps Air Station Yuma



Marine Corps Logistics Base Albany



Rhythmic reading: Summer program promotes music appreciation

"It's unorthodox in a library setting," Amos Tookes, librarian, said. "Children will be learning about music, reading about music, and we're going to try to entertain them with music. Hopefully it's going to be a summer of rhythmic reading, reading to music. We will be entertaining the children with stories about music and musical artists."

One young reader said she "likes to read and (likes) hip hop and pop and hopes to learn more about (them)."

A 6-year-old participant exclaimed that he "wants to be a country music star with a band." If there's a book about country musicians he wants to read it.



NAVY



Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickham

“While all kids genuinely need an academic break, summer reading provides them a relaxing means of preserving skills that will make the coming school year more productive,” explained Phyllis Frenzel, Joint Base Pearl Harbor-Hickham Library director.

“The fun aspect of summer reading for kids is being able to read titles they choose, that they may not have had time for during the year, or delve more deeply into a subject they want to learn more about,” she added.

Jolene Callahan, Navy spouse, said she was eager to sign her three kids, ages 11 months to 6 years, for the reading program. “We have always read to each of our kids every night since they were babies,” Callahan said.

“They are enjoying the various activities that the program offers, such as interacting with their peers during the activities, learning how to use the library, learning the appropriate conduct for the [library] setting and overall, we are enjoying the time together picking out and reading books as a family,” she added.

“I would encourage others to participate because it is free, it is a way to engage your kids in a fun and academic way, it helps build bonding relationships between parents and children, and it makes the library a fun place to be—which helps to solidify positive feelings and attitudes towards learning for the future,” she explained.



The Quantico Base Library provided great entertainment—the USMC Jazz Band—on July 9th. Read to the Rhythm!



Naval Support Facility Dahlgren



Naval Support Facility Dahlgren, VA, held a STEM Event: Kids and teens got to learn about electricity and wiring and everyone went home with their own working pair of headphones. All our sign-up spots were taken and, with parents, we had 62 people for the event!



Naval Support Facility Dahlgren held the Read to the Rhythm Pizza Pool party August 6th. 63 Attended.



Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek-Fort Story

2015 Summer Reading a big hit at Joint Expeditionary Base Little Creek–Fort Story (JEBLCFS)

“Combined we had a total of 15 library programs! There were approximately 1,400 people in attendance at our SPR events. 409 Summer Readers read 3,489 books! This is remarkable for us because 6 out of our 7 employees experienced their first Navy SRP.”

Our programs were a hit. Some highlights include:

The Navy Fleet Forces Band: A quartet performed for about 100 patrons. In addition to bringing us beautiful music, they also told stories about each song and demonstrated different instruments.

Joy the Musical Clown: Joy and her tailed friends sang songs, performed magic tricks, and provided our libraries with lots of laughter.

Drums!: We had a drum circle with over 60 children in attendance. The noise was amazing in the library... but no one said, "Shhhh!" Adults and children enjoyed this event.

Our opening and closing parties: We held the opening party at the Little Creek Library and the Closing Party at the Fort Story Library. Combined attendance was over 400 and everyone had a blast. We had a train, cotton candy machines, bouncy houses, bubble fun stations, and face painters.

The JEBLCFS Summer Reading Program incentives were appreciated and fun! The children loved the light-up gloves especially. It is often difficult to get people to love reading. Our Summer Reading Programs bring this special military community together while promoting a love of learning. The entertainment grants made available allowed us to supplement our program with some wonderful local talent.

JEB Little Creek-Fort Story Library System

SUMMER READING CLOSING PARTY

Friday, August 14
6 to 8 p.m.
Fort Story Library
530 Solomon Road, Bldg. 1530, Fort Story, VA

Bubble Fun Stations!
DJ with musical games!
with many other fun activities!

Read to the Rhythm

You are cordially invited to our closing party. Summer is leaving and so is this years' Summer Reading Program. Yes kids, it has to stop! But, not without a BANG! Bubble Fun Stations! DJ with musical games! Ginormous story book and many other fun activities!

Contact Irma Charity at 422-7525 for more information.

WWW.DISCOVERMWR.COM

Our SRP was a huge success on many levels. I hope we are able to keep the funding for this program!

*—Brandy L. Jeschonek-Stevens, Library Director,
JEB Little Creek-Fort Story*





Read

for
the

WIN

2016 DoD-MWR Summer Reading

Carrie Ruchler