

BC SUMMER READING CLUB 2019 REPORT



British Columbia
Summer Reading Club

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Executive Summary

In 2019 the BC Summer Reading Club (BC SRC) reached over 173,085 children in more than 200 communities throughout BC. The BC SRC is made possible by a \$65,000 grant from the BC Ministry of Education. CUPE BC generously provided a \$50,000 grant ensuring that children across the province received a celebratory medal for participating in BC SRC.

Developed, evolved and coordinated by the BC Library Association, BC SRC encourages children to build their reading and literacy skills through the summer months. BC SRC connects children and families to their local library and encourages children to discover a love of reading. BC SRC is a fun, positive, family and community-oriented program that brings families into the library, brings the library to communities, and brings communities together to celebrate reading, literacy and libraries.

BC SRC's success in reaching children and families grows from the program's intention to be responsive to the expressed needs of local neighbourhoods,

and alert to the unique needs of British Columbians. Our Planning Committee and Content Creators come from across the province and bring diverse skills, experiences, and perspectives to their work building the BC SRC program each year.

The anticipated outcome of BC SRC is to help maintain reading and literacy levels among all children over the summer, especially newcomer children, aboriginal children, children with disabilities, and children living in vulnerable situations defined by social and economic disparity. BC SRC introduces children to public libraries and thus begins a relationship between the library and the child that will support learning and community connections throughout the child's life. A strong relationship with the local public library enhances and supports the knowledge, skills, and competencies each child needs as they grow into adults. The relationship that BC SRC fosters between children, families and public libraries further supports each child's readiness for post-secondary education, should they choose this route. BC SRC is part of the foundation of each child's preparedness to participate in BC's communities, culture and economy.

BC SRC is designed to support libraries as they plan and deliver programs that meet the distinctive needs and wants of their communities. BC SRC encourages libraries to build community partnerships. Organizers know that some of the most successful BC SRC programs happen when the library works together with community members. Thanks to the enthusiasm and commitment of library staff we know that BC SRC is featured in a broad variety of events including, but not limited to, parades, farmer's markets, maker fairs, and community days.

BC SRC prioritizes an inclusive and diverse lens through which library programs can be planned and delivered. For many newcomer families, the BC SRC supports new language skills while connecting new families with their local library, their new community, and their new neighbours. Deaf children have an opportunity to participate in BC SRC using American Sign Language, and parents can read about the benefits of summer reading in over 40 languages. Dr. Tess Prendergast (UBC) and Dr. Carol Ford (UVIC, retired) assess the BC SRC program to ensure that the program meets a high standard for equity, inclusivity, and diversity. This ongoing feedback is incorporated into the overarching program so every library can benefit from this professional assessment. Committed library staff assess their individual programs regularly and share ideas, new learnings, and experiences through the annual BC SRC Survey.

BC SRC welcomes all children and families but is aimed at children aged 5-14, capturing the crucial ages for securing positive reading habits. Dedicated

library staff are the most significant group of trained professionals to reach school-aged children during summer break when critical academic skills can be lost due to long periods without reading. (See Appendix A) Engaging children over the summer begins when library staff visit schools, usually in June, to promote BC SRC. The success of BC SRC school visits, along with the trust community members have in their public libraries, is the foundation for the strong relationships many libraries have with BC schools.

The BC SRC is an accessible, diverse, and inclusive program that is developed and managed by the BC Library Association but grows from the work and commitment of individual libraries and staff, and flourishes because of community support and participation. The BC Library Association is committed to providing BC SRC core print materials free of charge to all BC libraries.

BC SRC provides participants, including families, caregivers, relatives and neighbours, the opportunity to meet new friends, learn about their communities, build relationships with their library, and develop a lifelong love of reading.

In many rural communities, SRC is one of the only summer long free events children can partake in; it provides an opportunity for children to socialize during the summer.

Vancouver Island Regional Library

CUPE BC

The BC Library Association is pleased and proud to recognize the 2019 partnership with CUPE BC. CUPE BC generously contributed \$50,000 to ensure that the 2019 BC Summer Reading Club could provide medals to children across the province.

We are very proud of the strong relationship that CUPE BC and the BCLA have developed, and this latest partnership makes it even stronger, said CUPE BC President Paul Faoro. We're big supporters of the Summer Reading Club because it encourages and fosters learning and a lifelong

love of reading. Public libraries have always been important hubs for our communities and provide important services to all visitors. We're very pleased to support this important initiative.

CUPE BC's contribution allows BCLA to continue this quality program at the high standards that libraries across the province expect. Moreover, CUPE BC's contribution ensures that children across the province are recognized for their summer reading accomplishments.

...earning a medal for completing their SRC records provides kids with a sense of accomplishment, and a reward that they can get excited about.

Coquitlam Public Library

CUPE BC represents over 97,000 people in more than 160 locals, including 29 public libraries in the province. Our shared commitment to libraries ensures that this partnership strengthens both CUPE BC and BCLA, as well as strengthening our members and the communities we serve.



FAST FACTS!

The reading club is amazing to help children keep reading over the summer months. So many parents thank us every year and say that their children were super motivated.
Squamish Public Library

In 2019, **173,085** children were reached in BC SRC. Based on the **\$65,000** grant from the BC Ministry of Education this works out to **38 cents per child!**

More than **46,252** children participated in community events

Over **91,556** children attended in-house library events

Official registration in BC SRC was **91,169**

It is important to note that not all children officially or formally register for BC SRC, but this does not exclude them from participating throughout the summer. There are many reasons some children and families chose not to register for BC SRC, and we respect this decision without querying it. Thus, the scope of BC SRC is best understood by the number of children BC SRC reaches, and not simply by the number of children registered.

Adults as well as children are directly and indirectly affected by BC SRC.

More than **13,406** adults were reached through **5,522** school visits

More than **91,169** parents participated (counting one adult per officially-registered child)

More than **31,069** adults participated in community events

More than **40,105** adults participated in in-library events

Materials Distributed to libraries

2,465 posters

99,700 reading records

33,215 medals

2019 BC SRC Survey Numbers	
Number of volunteers, summer students, and/or staff TRAINED or DEVELOPED	691
number of volunteers, age 13-18	61
number of volunteers, age 19-24	25
number of volunteers, age 24 or older	151
Summer Students (paid)	79
Staff (part-time or full-time)	368
number of opportunities specifically created for Indigenous students/staff	7
	691
Total number of each type of Community Event libraries participated in	605
Community Days	122
Farmer's Markets	91
Indigenous Community Events	23
Literacy Events	53
Museums	27
Maker Fairs	8
Medal Ceremonies	49
Parades	18
Pop-up Libraries	59
Other	126
Total number of formal/informal partnerships developed through collaboration w/BC SRC	527
Local Businesses (restaurants, stores)	250
Local Services (fire, police)	46
Local government	45
Newcomer groups	8
First Nations Bands	27
Groups with a First Nations focus (e.g. daycamps)	20
Literacy Organizations	31
Local Media	46
Other	54
	527
Total number of School/Community/In-Library Events	
School/class visits (includes French)	5,522
School/class visits to French language class	398
Community Events	605
In-Library Events	3,941
French Language In-Library Events	8
Indigenous Language In-Library Events	32
Total number of children reached through School/Community/In-Library Events	
Children reached at School/class Visits (includes French)	173,085
Children reached in French Language class	9,544
Children reached at Community Events	46,252
Children reached at In-Library Events	91,556
Children reached at French Language In-Library Events	156
Children reached at Indigenous Language In-Library Events	1,347
Total number of adults reached through School/Community/In-Library Events	
Adults reached at School Visits (includes French)	13,406
Adults reached in French Language class	462
Adults reached at Community Events	31,069
Adults reached at In-Library Events	40,105
Adults reached at French Language In-Library Events	19
Adults reached at Indigenous Language In-Library Events	93
Total number of registered children	91,169

BC SRC ANNUAL SURVEY

At the end of every summer BCLA sends a BC SRC Survey to every library in the province. (See Appendix B) We have a 100 percent response rate to the survey. The survey is the primary collection tool for our annual assessment and is used to compile and compare our metrics.

REGISTERED AND REACHED FOR 2019

The SRC is a program our kids and families look forward to every year. *West Vancouver Memorial Library*

As per the BC SRC survey, the number of children “registered” increased from 85,963 in 2018 to 91,169 in 2019 (+5206 or +6%). This follows a 5% increase from 2017 to 2018.

The number of children “reached” increased from 163,396 in 2018 to 173,085 in 2019 (+9,689 or +10%).



PARTNERSHIPS

SRC allows us to connect and engage with our community in a meaningful way and build partnerships within our city.
Burnaby Public Library

In addition to developing and mounting in-house programs and community events, BC libraries created BC SRC-specific partnerships with community groups including, but not limited to: Newcomer groups (7% of libraries), First Nations Bands (18% of libraries), Groups with a First Nations Focus (15% of libraries), and Literacy Groups (34% of libraries).

Other partnerships and collaborations include puppeteers, local tech hubs, the Credit Unions, local arts organizations, local museums and art galleries, social development groups, Friends of the Library, and local learn to code groups. Libraries are creative and daring in looking for partnerships and building relationships with community organizations that can help support BC SRC.

Specific partnerships mentioned by libraries include:

- Royal Astronomical Society
- Burrowing Owl Conservation Society
- Friends of the Library
- Kaleidoscope Festival
- Medieval Festival
- Alliance for Literacy
- UNBC Synthetic Biology Club
- REAPS (Recycling and Environmental Action Planning Society)
- HR Macmillan Space Centre
- Royal BC Museum and Archives
- Sunshine Coast Botanical Garden
- North Okanagan Labour Council
- Canada Learning Code
- Coast Mountain College
- VSB Rec & Read program
- Coal Harbour Day Camp
- BC Waterwise Team

One BC SRC library staff person commented:

The Farmer's Market was a great experience. I was able to consistently promote the SRC throughout the summer and not just in June. Children at the market were very excited to have something fun and free to do and would take time to sit at my table and colour. I was able to converse with their parents and explain the program and hand them a registration form. As the summer continued, kids in the SRC would stop by to say hello and I was able to get them excited for next week's theme.

Another BC SRC library staff person shared:

This year we partnered with the Dze L Kant Friendship Centre. We did this in two ways. First, we face painted at the Friendship Centre during the National Indigenous People's Day celebration. And second, we asked Mel, a storyteller from the Friendship Centre, to come in and talk to our young readers and to tell them a story from his culture.

PARTICIPATION

BC Libraries

We love that we have access to the BC SRC materials so we can be a part of the movement across the province with consistent branding. Mackenzie Public Library

All BC public libraries participated in the 2019 BC SRC except Tumbler Ridge. Tumbler Ridge chose to participate in the TD SRC and have done so since 2014. The Toronto Dominion Bank sponsors the TD SRC reading program run through the Toronto Public Library.

Library Participation Outside BC

Nunavut libraries (6 locations) and the Yellowknife library chose to participate in the BC SRC rather than the Toronto Dominion SRC. Libraries outside BC are welcome to purchase Core Print Materials and Novelties to use in their summer reading program. Such libraries are responsible for their own shipping and handling costs. BCLA does not publicize this opportunity and is currently not looking to monetize the interest shown in BC SRC across the country.

As libraries across the country become more aligned with social justice issues, and adopt a more community-led model for delivering library programs, more and more libraries have shown an interest in a summer reading program that is not funded by a large bank, and is instead funded by local and provincial governments, and by groups with a direct interest in their communities.

TECHNOLOGY SUPPORTS BC PARTICIPATION

Thanks to our significant use of technology, specifically online project management, file sharing, and video conferencing, the BC SRC is truly a provincial program. For example:

- Our 2019 Core Committee included a Co-Chair from the Lower Mainland and one from Castlegar and District area
- Our Content Creator libraries are from the Lower Mainland, the Interior, and Vancouver Island.
- Survey tools allow us to include all BC library staff in selecting annual BC SRC themes.

Technology allows us to work more efficiently and effectively and has made it possible to include more varied and diverse voices in program planning.

BC Library Conference

The annual BC Library Conference offers an opportunity to engage library staff from across the province in discussing and deciding such issues as new BC SRC themes. The below pictures demonstrate the collected responses to a question about the 2020 program theme at the BC SRC Booth at the 2019 Conference Trade Show.



Following the BC Library Conference, an online poll was created on the BC SRC staff website, and library staff from across the province were invited to vote for their favourite theme for 2021. The shortlist of possible 2021 themes included:

1. Mystery
2. S.T.E.A.M. (Science Technology Engineering Art Math)
3. Heart-mind (social-emotional intelligence; think “Inside Out”, the movie)

“Mystery” narrowly beat out Heart-mind for the 2021 BC SRC! We anticipate the same broad level of provincial engagement and contribution from the BC library community for 2020!

PLANNING AHEAD

With the help of the 2019 BC Library Conference attendees and library staff across the province, we plan our themes 2-3 years ahead. While the upcoming year’s tagline still gets announced each fall, this advance planning of the broader themes not only increases participation and a sense of involvement, it also allows libraries to gather materials and make plans for future, theme-appropriate community partnerships. When we plan ahead, libraries too can plan ahead.



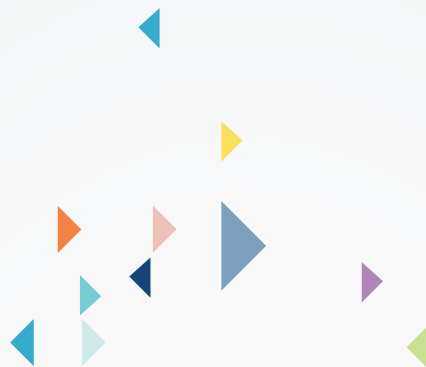


SIGNIFICANT VALUES & BENEFITS ACCORDING TO LIBRARIES

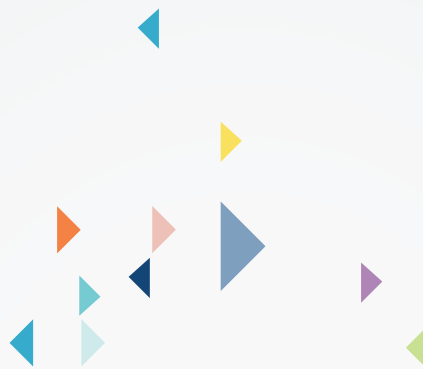
The following are a selection of comments from the survey question asking libraries to describe **“what you’ve observed to be the most significant values and benefits the BC SRC brings to your library and your community”**

Below, listed alphabetically, are library responses in their own words.

<p>Beaver Valley Public Library</p>	<p>Some of the most significant benefits is free literacy based programming through the summer; it is a great way to bring children/families into the library that do not normally use the library...we have noticed that they continue to attend the library even though SRC is now done. By working with the staff from the local elementary school we have made some really good connections for the children returning to the school this Fall. We love SRC and all the activity it brings to the library!</p> <p>In addition, we are able to provide employment for a local university student and add to her experience as she studies to be a teacher</p>
<p>Bowen Island Public Library</p>	<p>Continuing reading skill development through the summer.</p> <p>Bringing children and families into the library who may not normally attend.</p> <p>Inspiring children to explore and learn through activities and books.</p>
<p>Burnaby Public Library</p>	<p>Countless positive interactions with families!! SRC allows us to connect and engage with our community in a meaningful way and build partnerships within our city.</p>



<p>Cariboo Regional District Library</p>	<p>Instills in kids a love a reading throughout the summer and gives them academic and learning strength towards their upcoming school year. It also helps the library connect with local business through their generous support towards donations and information sharing.</p> <p>Building strong confident readers and fostering a fun safe environment for kids to learn, grow, and socialize. The students take the reading records very seriously and are motivated to read when they know they will be rewarded each week. One little boy was so excited that he had read for 46 days straight that he made the newspaper! Further, as 100 Mile is such a small widespread community, the social aspect of the club is hugely important! Lots of my kids this year were vacationing for the summer or had just moved to 100 Mile. They had no connections in the community but the SRC gave them an opportunity to make friends before school started. I got two thank-you cards from some students who had moved to 100 Mile this summer. They both were very glad to have participated and made friends.</p> <p>The BC SRC brings children together. While there are benefits such as children reading during the summer, there are also a variety of other benefits, including teaching kids acceptance for everyone. The SRC is a place where kids can be themselves without fear of judgment.</p>
<p>Castlegar & District Public Library</p>	<p>BC SRC continues to create a bridge and link between the library and children in the community throughout the summer. We also love that we can provide a service to any other child visiting the area throughout the summer by handing them a reading record, stickers, and a little package to get them on their way (with bookmarks, etc.). Kids develop great relationships with the student coordinators and staff when they come each week, and often we see these kids throughout the year at class visits or library programs. Having a manual and resources available through the BC SRC website makes it really helpful for new and returning students. We love how much love of reading and libraries comes out of this program.</p>



<p>Coquitlam Public Library</p>	<p>It gets kids excited about reading, and brings lots of them into the library with their parents during the summer</p> <p>Earning a medal for completing their SRC records provides kids with a sense of accomplishment, and a reward that they can get excited about—it is a great incentive in a community like ours, where there are many new Canadians, and kids who otherwise might not be inclined to read much at home in their spare time</p> <p>In our system, reading became a family activity because we promoted our Adult Summer Reading Club to parents when they registered their kids for SRC—by cross-promoting the Adult SRC, we were able to register more than 600 adults—parents who joined the Adult SRC modelled / reinforced the behaviour they were expecting of their kids: joining a literacy club, reading at home, writing things down (book reviews in the case of adults, names of books and authors for kids), making trips to the library (parents to get books or to deliver book reviews, kids to get books and to pick up stickers for their records), etc.</p>
<p>Cranbrook Public Library</p>	<p>From our Summer Student: The first couple of weeks, all I heard from parents was that their children had been waiting all year for the Summer Reading Club to start, and how excited they were that it had finally begun, and by the end of the program, I had multiple parents tell me that their children’s reading skills had improved over the summer, which is exactly the point of the SRC. I also had parents tell me that their children fell in love with reading for the first time because of the incentive of the SRC. It made me realize how important and essential this program is to our community, and I was really proud to be a part of that this year.</p>
<p>Creston Valley Public Library</p>	<p>SRC is a wonderful addition to our community! It encourages so many kids to read as well as gives something fun for kids to do. The best part was being able to give reading records to the kids that couldn’t come to the weekly programming. Our community is very spread out so it was helpful to give out records and keep kids reading when they couldn’t come to reading club all the time. It’s such an excellent support system in our community for kids of all ages.</p>
<p>Elkford Public Library</p>	<p>Public feedback for the library is great.</p> <p>We always have a page of photos and thanks to people involved in SRC in our September monthly newspaper.</p> <p>The kids that take part seem to value the fun.</p>

<p>Fort Nelson Public Library</p>	<p>The free supplies we receive for the program greatly enhance the programs that we are able to offer during the summer.</p> <p>Our community greatly appreciates the ability to attend free programs with their children. This is very important, as many families are not doing well financially and have had to reduce paid activities that their children would normally attend during the summer.</p>
<p>Fort St John Public Library Association</p>	<p>SRC provides a reliable framework for delivering a broad array of programs to our community. The high-quality materials and graphic design lend a feeling of professionalism that I believe helps to draw in new patron families every year, in addition to our regulars.</p>
<p>Gibsons & District Public Library</p>	<p>The satisfaction of tracking their own reading success seems to bring much pleasure to younger readers.</p> <p>And we hear from parents of slightly older kids (especially reluctant readers), that the log and potential for prizes takes care of any at-home battles about reading. The log and prizes motivate kids so the parents don't have to.</p>
<p>Grand Forks and District Public Library</p>	<p>Encourages reading and keeps reading levels up. Gives kids something to do over the summer. Most of our community summer programs for kids involve sports, its nice to have other options for children.</p>
<p>Granisle Public Library</p>	<p>This was my first year doing the program. We added some small prizes as incentive and a larger "grand prize" for the end. Each book read earned an entry into the weekly draw. We are a small community but 19 children signed up and the last few weeks their entries no longer fit in the box and we were using a wastepaper can. Kept kids reading all summer. Makes September so much easier for them.</p>
<p>Greenwood Public Library</p>	<p>There are only two options for organized summer activities in Greenwood, the SRC and the pool. Having the SRC is like going to a summer activity camp for these kids. It gives them a sense of belonging to a group and the library. They have to opportunity to be with their friends and make creative art and learn about new topics as well as be rewarded for their reading. The library benefits by increased circulation and use of the library. The community has an opportunity to partner with the program, by giving donations for example.</p>

<p>Hazelton District Public Library</p>	<p>The SRC is very beneficial for the children that live in this community. The clubs create a safe space for the children when they might not have any other safe place to go. The library is really important to kids in this community and they spend a lot of time in here.</p>
<p>Invermere Public Library</p>	<p>SRC gives a framework for summer staff to use to develop exciting and fun programming for kids over the summer. Summer staff are often younger and less experienced so having SRC to use as a base for developing programming is a huge benefit. It gives the summer staff some autonomy over their planning and it frees up time for full time staff who would otherwise have to be very involved in the initial planning and training for the programming.</p>
<p>Kaslo & District Public Library</p>	<p>Summer activities for children in their community. Reading for pleasure and fun. A chance to hire students to deliver programs within our community.</p>
<p>Kimberley Public Library</p>	<p>This free reading program is very important in our community, bringing in families who do not have money for summer activities - as well as those from wealthier families. The social connection for the kids is hugely important, and we noticed the interactions grow into friendships and literacy focused enjoyment/conversations. This year, because we had STEAM programming throughout the summer to compliment the SRC, we saw a large number of cross-over with kids, siblings and parents. There was an obvious (stated many times) increase of awareness about what libraries offer, which translates into increased patronage and increased literacy for patrons big and small.</p>
<p>Kitimat Public Library Association</p>	<p>The BC SRC is essential in fostering a sense of community and curiosity for many families in Kitimat and those visiting for the summer), familiarizing children with their local library as a safe and accessible space for learning and play.</p>



<p>Lillooet Area Library Association</p>	<p>It is very helpful to have the template for our summer staff. This year our Children's Outreach Coordinator was on sick leave and the summer staff were able to do a good job because they had access to these resources. It makes the planning so much easier. Having the medals, reading records, etc supplied is very helpful because we do not have a good printer in Lillooet.</p>
<p>Mackenzie Public Library</p>	<p>We love that we have access to the BC SRC materials so we can be a part of the movement across the province with consistent branding</p>
<p>McBride & District Public Library</p>	<p>In our small community, our library is one of the only organizations offering summer programming for children. Tracking reading is very appealing to some children, and the regular visits for stickers gives our staff a great opportunity to connect with the children, talk about books, and get to know them. Our summer programs also provide a time and place for kids to hang out with other kids. In rural areas, sometimes you don't see your friends as often as during the school year. Finally, those who receive a medal at the end of summer for completing their Reading Record are often very proud.</p>
<p>Midway Public Library</p>	<p>All your excellent support and online printable materials are very helpful.</p>
<p>Nakusp Public Library</p>	<p>We had a great time with the activities and it was really good for our small community. Thanks!</p>
<p>New Westminster Public Library</p>	<p>It brings in children who don't usually visit the library - they show up with their parents because they heard about it at school.</p> <p>It's such a great way to encourage parents who are worried about their child's reading by giving them a fun and positive program to participate in. We see a lot of parents who are looking for opportunities to maintain or improve their child's reading over the summer, and SRC is a great thing to offer them when we aren't running our own programs like Reading Buddies.</p> <p>It's also been a wonderful way to connect with newcomer families - their children hear about the program at school or via friends, and they want to join too. It helps build a sense of community because they're becoming a part of this program that so many of their peers are participating in as well.</p>

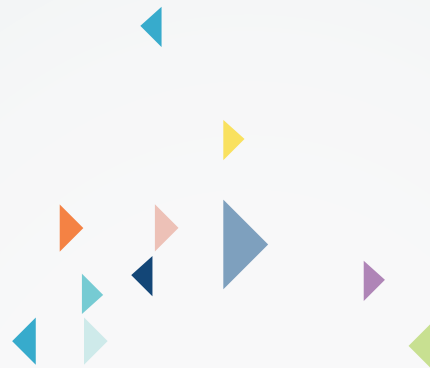
<p>Okanagan Regional Library</p>	<p>Free, fun programs, families reading and doing activities together, increased awareness of the library and what services we provide, motivation for families to read together during the summer, keep kids off tech for a bit, SRC has the ability to bring families to the library that haven't been using the library / reminds families we offer a wide range of programs beyond preschoolers, many kids find a new independence at the library, free programs that are accessible to all kids in the community, SRC provides fun, creative, educational experiences in a safe cooperative environment, builds partnerships with local organizations and volunteers ,enables kids and adults to meet new people or reconnect with old friends , good for staff camaraderie, probably the only free summer program in our community, SRC is highly anticipated in our little community - close to 75% of the local kids register, families make the library a regular stop in the summer on their way to the beach, we have a grandma who donates 2 quilts for prizes because her grandson has benefited so much from SRC (Sicamous)</p>
<p>Pender Island Public Library / Southern Gulf Islands Community Libraries</p>	<p>The children involved have an increased sense of the library being their space too, not just an adult space they are invited into... families come in for the SRC activities and then use many of the other resources the library offers.</p>



<p>Penticton Public Library</p>	<p>Summer Reading Club always offers us the opportunity to extend a fresh welcome to the community, to remind people of what we do and how we are growing to reflect community needs.</p> <p>Hiring summer students to work on SRC has meant we can offer an intensive and meaningful work experience for youth (particularly those with an interest in the library or education fields). It has been a pleasure to see the personal and professional growth from our student workers. This is also an opportunity for development with our continuing student workers - many have discovered a passion for working with youth through SRC.</p> <p>We had particularly good participation from the families who attended this year. As always, the program truly did encourage more reading, more excitement about reading and greater pride in reading achievement. It also encouraged kids to ask for reading suggestions and try something new in their reading, pushing beyond their comfort zones. Library staff had the chance to develop the relationship with families as a trusted resource for reading support and information. Beyond that, we saw some nice social growth: kids reconnected with friends from school or other activities, but also made an effort to include and connect with kids they did not know. Group projects and games successfully built on the social aspect of SRC. We also saw lots of parents and grandparents staying for the program and interacting with other kids and caregivers - this really was a community building program for all who participated.</p>
<p>Pouce Coupe Public Library</p>	<p>The children love coming into the library each week and telling us about the books they have read and showing us their reading records. They are proud of their accomplishments and always end up discovering new books each week to take home and read to either mom or dad and even their grandparents and siblings.</p>
<p>Powell River Public Library</p>	<p>The reliability/continuity of SRC makes it something that we can build great summer programs around while keeping a thread of commonality with other libraries in the province. I appreciate the ready-made advertising components. The annual theme gives me something to mull over and focus on as I plan my library's SRC events.</p>
<p>Prince Rupert Public Library</p>	<p>The SRC sparks interest and creativity inside children's minds and changes their view on reading from something they 'have' to do into something they want to do.</p>

<p>Radium Hot Springs Public Library</p>	<p>This was the first year our library was in a position to fully take advantage of the BC SRC resources and manual. It was a tremendous success, and we are excited to keep expanding this annual program in our community.</p>
<p>Salmo Public Library</p>	<p>The SRC brings children into the library that don't come regularly. Some of them are now coming to our afterschool programs. The few surveys that we got back were very positive and parents commented that they loved that their children were reading all summer. The local businesses are generous with their donations and see the value of having the program in our community.</p>
<p>Sechelt Public Library</p>	<p>The reading records bring a lot of younger people foot traffic through the library. We have good use throughout the year but the stickers had children coming in on a weekly basis.</p> <p>It allows the library to create connections with local business and organizations. Everyone seems to love the library and likes helping us and working with use to access more families.</p> <p>Free summer programming is huge for children and local families.</p> <p>The themes definitely made it easier for myself and the Summer Student to plan our activities and events.</p>
<p>Smithers Public Library</p>	<p>The most significant values and benefits of the SRC in Smithers are that it brings the young people together and gives parents something to do with their children during the summer. Often times parents with young children do not know what to do with them in the Summer as kids are bound to get 'bored' in the house. It is a good way to get out of the house and have some fun as well as meet new people!</p>
<p>Squamish Public Library</p>	<p>The reading club is amazing to help children keep reading over the summer months. So many parents thank us every year and say that their children were super motivated.</p> <p>The reading records, stickers, and medals are the most important materials.</p>
<p>Stewart Public Library</p>	<p>Kids love our Summer Reading Club! The most significant benefit is seeing children come into the library who have never been here before. It is one of the busiest places in town while we are running our weekly SRC program and it shows the community how important the library is!</p>

<p>Surrey Libraries</p>	<p>Encourages children to keep reading throughout the summer and encourages families to come into the library together and read together.</p>
<p>Taylor Public Library</p>	<p>This program itself is a value. I would have no other reason to entice children to read on their own over the summer holidays. This is a structured program (though I don't use all of its resources) and allows staff and users to be able to participate without having to create a program on their own.</p>
<p>Telkwa Reading Centre</p>	<p>Relationships built between children—in our community many children attend school in another community 15 kms away so there are wonderful connections.</p> <p>We increase our community presence through our relationship to children. They often bring their families back and become repeat customers. Our circulation soars!</p> <p>We involve guests in our club who try to incorporate the theme of the week. We wrote a SRC ukulele welcome song.</p>




<p>Thompson-Nicola Regional Library</p>	<p>Responsibility and accountability. It was so impressive to see the amount of children who would remember, and be excited, to bring their reading log back into the library with them. Many children were “put in charge” of their reading logs, and many parents shared comments of their children initiating sessions of reading throughout the week.</p> <p>Open-mindedness. With the theme being “Imagine the Possibilities!” the kids were called to throw away the rules and unleash their creativity. Further, we were able to create an open, accepting environment where anything was possible.</p> <p>Community building. This summer we witnessed children playing and laughing with their past & future classmates, reliving highlights with past team members, and introducing their cousins to their friends. Even the parents, guardians, etc. were seen connecting during each weekly SRC event. :) The patrons who participate are always very excited. I would say the most significant values and benefits of SRC are bringing the community together in the summer when people often do their own things, encouraging literacy in a fun way and creating memories of a positive relationship with their library that will hopefully continue throughout their whole lives.</p> <p>Encouragement of reading. Kids were talking to other kids about what they’ve read, and the stickers/medals they’ve received; appreciation from parents regarding the effort put out to run the program.</p> <p>Self-esteem building: It helps kids feel like they belong at the library and it keeps them proud of their reading all summer. They were always excited to come in and show us how much they had read since the last visit.</p> <p>Family building. Families connected around a love of reading, we saw many more grandparents bringing children in this summer and participating in developing their love of reading.</p> <p>Opportunity. It brings a variety of children to the library via reading groups that normally do not have the opportunity to visit.</p>
<p>Trail & District Public Library</p>	<p>Summer Reading Club enhances our programming every year and brings children from our entire community into our library, encouraging them to read and fostering relationships and a sense of community with and through the library. Parents and caregivers look forward to SRC all year long and often ask us well in advance when it will be starting up again.</p>

<p>Vancouver Island Regional Library</p>	<p>In many rural communities, SRC is one of the only summer long free events children can partake in; it provides an opportunity for children to socialize during the summer. SRC provides families with activities to do together that are literacy based; it gives children more confidence in reading and helps them maintain their reading level over the summer, and provides necessary fun and entertainment for all ages of children.</p>
<p>Vancouver Public Library</p>	<p>Encourages reluctant readers. Brings families into the library during the summer.</p> <p>Recognizing the hard work of readers</p> <p>Getting to know kids in the community and having conversations with them about books and reading</p> <p>The children are still so excited about it year after year. Parents and caregivers are so happy to have a way to help keep their children reading during the summer months.</p> <p>Awareness of library resources, interest in programs, increased attention to books and reading at home. Support for literacy work of teachers.</p> <p>So much excitement about reading!</p> <p>Engagement with library among families who I don't otherwise see much, & chance to get to know school-age kids; Connection between school, home, and library</p> <p>The most significant benefits of the SRC are getting kids excited about reading, introducing them to books and other information to meet their interests and get them curious to learn more, and developing relationships with them (library staff and kids). Especially for low-income families who may not have access to books at home, the SRC helps create a literacy rich summer experience.</p> <p>Children are excited about coming to the library</p> <p>The diversity of activities that motivate non readers</p> <p>The community coming together to learn from each other</p> <p>In a community where reading levels are lower than typical, it is wonderful to see children getting excited about reading!</p>

<p>Vanderhoof Public Library</p>	<p>During the summer, children from all area schools participate in SRC and form new friendships that they may not have otherwise had the chance to discover. I love connecting with all our local youth and building relationships that last through the years. Getting the children through the door and discovering just how amazing and supportive their local library is, how it is a place they can always turn to, where fun is had, and where they are safe are some of the most important benefits of SRC.</p>
<p>West Vancouver Memorial Library</p>	<p>Kids are granted the freedom to choose what they want to read for pleasure. The SRC is a program our kids and families look forward to every year.</p>
<p>Whistler Public Library</p>	<p>Having an opportunity for kids to meet in a safe welcoming and fun environment for a number of sessions with a familiar caring adult, making new friends, discovering and engaging in active learning</p> <p>Offering activities for children that may be new to town, here only for the summer or wanting to make friends outside their classroom</p> <p>Receiving feedback from families about the excitement of traveling through BC and having their summer reading record checked at each library they go to</p> <p>Kids and parents get excited about accomplishing and sharing their reading goals</p>





COMMUNITY-LED LIBRARIES

One of the most important and most powerful aspects of the BC SRC is how the framework empowers library staff across the province to adapt the materials and respond to the unique needs of diverse communities. This “ground-level” approach makes BC SRC a responsive and community-driven program.

The BC SRC provides core print materials (posters, reading records, bookmarks) and medals, a programming manual (7 weeks of program ideas, activities, and booklists for different age groups), and outreach and promotional resources for libraries to work with. Each library develops and implements the BC SRC program in the way that best meets the needs of their community. This approach assures that each library is responsive to and aware of what their community wants for their children, while providing an overarching framework to help shape the program.



MEASURING SUCCESS

Our aim is to support libraries in serving the specific needs of their communities. To that end, each library determines whether a child has completed or has been successful in BC SRC participation.

We knew anecdotally that libraries used different goals to measure success from none—*If a child reads books at their reading level we consider that they have been successful*—to specific time-quotas—*15 minutes a day*—to self-determined goals—*Children set an individual daily reading goal with their families. These goals can be whatever the parent or caregiver feels is appropriate for the child.*

About 90 percent of BC libraries award medals, and 48 percent award medals based on participation. The remaining 52 percent award medals based on completing a reading-goal.

This year libraries were asked to describe what reading goals, if any, their library used to measure success. Examples of reading-goals include:

- Each age group (3-5, 6-8, 9-12) has a set amount of time to read to get one entry into a weekly prize draw.
- Children are given a calendar when they sign up, and each day that they read (or are read to) for 15 minutes or more, they can mark off one day on the calendar. Once they have completed 50 days, the

calendar can be returned to the library and they will receive their medal.

- Reader meter – each child adds to the meter throughout the summer and as a group they watch it ‘grow’ until they reach the end. This year, reaching the end meant a pizza party.
- Charts – each age group has a chart on the wall; every time a child visits SRC they get to put a sticker under their name on the chart. They love watching these little stickers add up!
- Books read, per week.
- Kids aged 3 and up must complete their reading records by filling one line a day over seven weeks (49 days/lines inside record)—younger kids will of course be reading with their parents and getting lots of help with writing down details inside their records. For children younger than three, we leave the completion of the club to the parent’s discretion—the younger children use “Read to Me” booklets and different sticker types—many but not all of the younger kids have older siblings who use the standard SRC booklet.
- Completion of reading log pages were used to encourage and measure reading goals. Numerous prizes were given out to any children completing each page.
- Children set an individual daily reading goal with their families. These goals can be whatever the parent or caregiver feels is appropriate for the child. Reaching that goal merits a “success.” There is no community tracking or visual competitive element.
- This summer, we defined success as 7 weeks of reading.
- If a child reads books at their reading level we consider that they have been successful.
- Completion of reading records.
- Any child that reads or is read a book is a success.
- Kids read or be read to for 20 minutes to complete a day (or line in the booklet) of reading.
- The children assign themselves their own goal.
- There was a chart used to keep track with a goal of 1000 books which increased as our goals were met. There were small prizes given for each goal met.
- We track by pages for our 9-14 year-olds. Chapters for our 5-8 year-olds and Number of Books for our Storytime kids.

- For the first completed reading log, participants received a medal as well as a token prize from the library (LEGO mini figurine). Upon completion of additional reading logs, participants could choose a smaller prize from the prize bucket.
- Reading goals I use to measure success are overhearing children talk about books they are reading, sharing those with others they meet at SRC. Making reading fun.
- Individual programs set up for challenged readers to participate with a feel-good completion—no one excluded.
- For each reading log page finished, one sticker is awarded. When all pages are completed, a medal is awarded.
- We use the reading record and each child is encouraged to set their own personal goals. Success is measured by the child fulfilling their own goal.
- How many books/chapters/pages any child reads in a week.
- The reading passports, stickers for each page filled out. We had an award ceremony on the last day and everyone who brought their finished reading passports were awarded a medal.
- We recommend 20 minutes per line/ 20 minutes per day. Any reading done in the summer is a success. All participants receive a medal. We support all family reading goals.
- Success is about loving reading and the library.
- We suggest that each line in the reading log reflect a day's worth of reading—so that one week of reading = one sticker. However, we do not insist on this—we let families set their own reading goals to keep it fun and encouraging. Medal presentation reflects their summer's participation, whatever that might be—we try to keep the wrap party experience equal for everyone.
- We measure success by the number of books each child has read and the number of pages they have completed. We are also a smaller community and are familiar with most of our families and are able to measure their success individually and know how well each student is able to read and are rewarded accordingly.
- We also give out additional prizes if they have printed the title of the book on their record themselves.
- We encourage readers to fill out a page in the reading guide per week over the course of 7 weeks. In addition to the stickers given at the bottom of each filled page, this year we added weekly "rewards"

given to anyone coming in with a newly filled page. What we found was that the stickers were adequately exciting for participants and that the rewards took a lot of time to plan with little payback/excitement from participants. All participants could pick up a medal at the end of seven weeks (we discontinued the medal ceremony this year due to a shortfall in funding for our project assistant that resulted in a condensed program of events for SRC).

- We encourage the children to consistently return their reading logs each week, no matter how much or how little they read.
- Children are eligible to collect a medal if they have completed the summer reading club which here at RPL means collecting all of the weekly stickers. A different sticker is handed out each week throughout the summer.
- We encourage children to complete their logs (and many do), however we give out medals for children who regularly participated and came in to the library to get stickers even if their log was not completely filled in.
- Our reading goals to measure success are if a child is using books in any form. We use the reading logs provided by the BCSRC to track the children's reading throughout the summer. We count all things as reading such as being read to, reading to yourself, audiobooks and ebooks. We say that an entry in your reading log can be made if you read a whole book or for 20 minutes or more.
- No specific goals. Anyone who participates gets a medal.
- The children receive a medal and certificate if they finish 5 or more weeks on their reading record.
- We don't have specific goals. We just want them to participate. There is a variation in ages so little ones may not read as much or be read to as often. As long as they register something on their reading record, we are happy.
- Kids 3–5yrs read for minimum of 15 minutes per day. Kids 6-9 yrs read for min of 30 minutes per day. Kids 10+ yrs read for min of 45 minutes per day.
- The completion of the reading log, or earnest engagement with the program and an attempt to complete the booklet during the summer.
- We measure success of reading goals with the reading logs, new memberships, book circulation, and kids being read to at the program.

- We recommend 15 minutes a day for 50 days but they can choose whatever goal suits their family.
- I allow the children to use whatever parameters best fit their reading style. It may be that they record every 10 minutes of reading or being read too. They may choose to record each book. They choose to record each chapter. I give each family the autonomy to choose what works best for them.
- In their reading record, we ask participants to write down what they were reading every time they sit down to read, or someone reads to them. We encourage all participants to complete their reading record. However, we also recognize that some children won't make it to the end of the reading record, so we also let anyone who finishes a page enter a draw. We give away lots of books as prizes every week during SRC.
- In a loftier sense, success is also achieved when children enjoy participating in SRC, attend and have fun at library programs, and get excited about what they are reading. We would like all children to have fond memories of SRC.



2019 ARTIST

For 2019, the BC SRC was thrilled to work with BC artist: Jami Gigot (www.jamigigot.com)

Filled with colour, whimsy, depth, and gentle humour, Jami's illustrations were a perfect match for the 2019 theme, *Imagine the Possibilities!* Jami has always loved the way 'imagination' can take you to the different places you create in your head. Her love of books, writing, and art initially led her to the film industry. As a digital artist, Jami has worked on several films including *Pan*, *The Chronicles of Narnia – Prince Caspian*, and *Antman and the Wasp*.

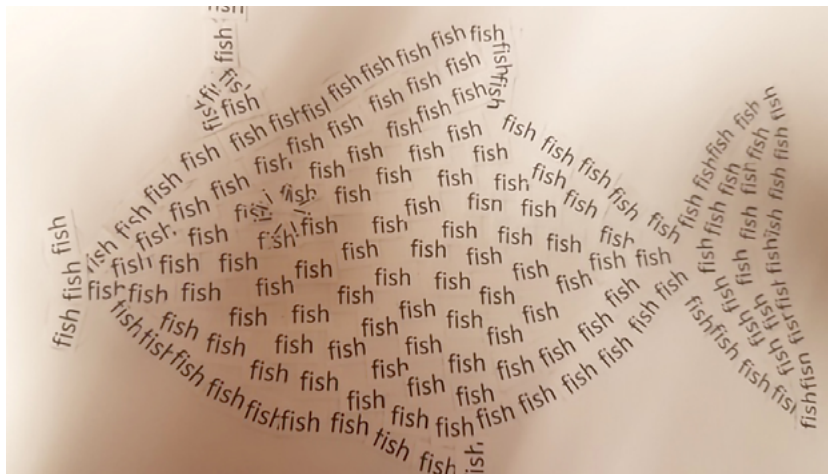
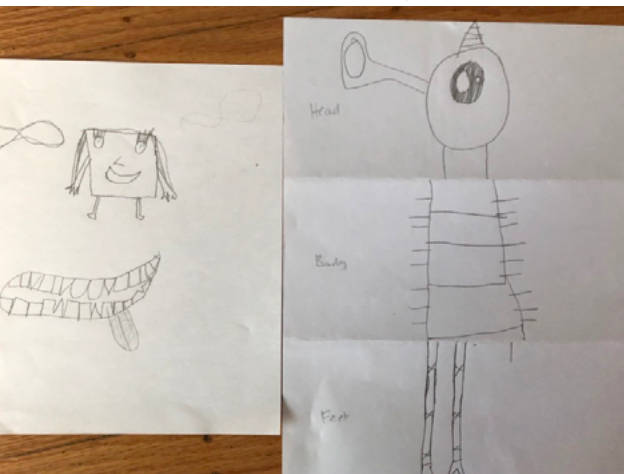
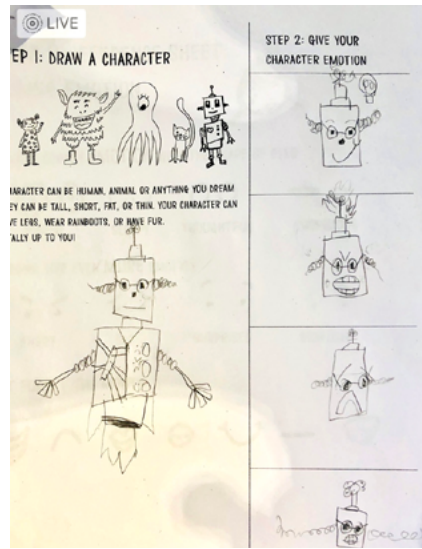
It was while reading to her two children, Mae and Sebastien, that she began to explore the world of illustrating picture books. Jami's delightful picture books include, *Mae and the Moon* (Ripple Grove Press, 2015) and *Seb and the Sun* (Ripple Grove Press, 2018) In a wonderful case of serendipity, Jami had already begun work on her newest book *Imagination Vacation* (Albert Whitman, 2019) before we asked her to imagine the possibilities with the BC SRC! Jami lives in Vancouver with her family.

It was a delight to have Jami signing posters at the BC SRC Trade Show booth at the 2019 BC Library Conference.



Several libraries invited Jami to visit. Jami graciously shared how positive the experience was for her.

I just wanted to say thank you again to the BC SRC team for giving me the wonderful opportunity to create the artwork for the Summer Reading Club this year. It's such a fantastic program, and I had an amazing time visiting several of the branches over the summer! I've attached a few photos of the fun. The first one is from a workshop at the Sooke Branch, and the lovely fish artwork was sent to me from Vruti Patel and the Victoria branches. The story walk was in Pemberton and so much fun!



THE PLANNING COMMITTEE

With the theme being “Imagine the Possibilities!” the kids were called to throw away the rules and unleash their creativity. Further, we were able to create an open, accepting environment where anything was possible.

Thompson-Nicola Regional Library

Jennifer Lee, Co-Chair, Vancouver Public Library and Laura Zaytsoff Co-Chair, Castlegar & District did a terrific job guiding the artwork with the rest of the Core Planning Committee, Coordinator and Graphic Designer.

Having our Co-Chairs and Content Creators from different-sized library systems as well as from different parts of BC helps ensure we are truly reflecting the needs of the province and are bring diverse BC voices in to the planning of BC SRC.

Jenn and Laura, and their team of Content Creators, developed the BC SRC manual (<http://kidssrc.libraries.coop/manual/>). Both were present at the BC SRC booth during the 2019 BCLA Conference.

Jennifer Lee and Laura Zaytsoff

Many thanks to our outgoing Co-Chair Jennifer Lee for all her work. Jenn took a “Walk on the Wild Side” with us in 2017, got into a little “Motion Commotion” in 2018, and, in 2019 , helped us “Imagine the Possibilities!” We are so grateful to Jenn for her great sense of design, her clarity and perspective, and her enthusiasm for the program. Thank you, Jenn!



The Full Team:

Cynthia Ford, Provincial Coordinator, BC SRC

Jennifer Lee and [Vancouver Public Library](#) (Committee Co-Chair)

Laura Zaytsoff and [Castlegar & District Public Library](#) (Committee Co-Chair)

Mehjabeen Ali and [Surrey Public Library](#) (Content Creator)

Julie Carter and [Vancouver Island Regional Library](#) (Content Creator)

Gina Gaudet and [Vancouver Public Library](#) (Content Creator)

Wiena Groenewold & [Fraser Valley Regional Library](#) (Content Creator)

Tina Lee and [Burnaby Public Library](#) (Content Creator)

Linda Youmans and [Okanagan Regional Library System](#) (Content Creator)

Tess Prendergast, [Inclusive Early Literacy](#) (Consultant)

Roger Handling, [Terra Firma Digital Arts](#) (Graphic Designer)

Neil Firkins, (Web Design)

Shayne Letain, [Rain in Spain Creative Studio](#) (www.bcsrc.ca)

Mari Martin, Director, [Libraries Branch, Ministry of Education](#)

Scott Leslie and Jonathan Schatz, [BC Libraries Cooperative](#)

Michael Burriss and the staff at [InterLINK](#)

Angie Ayupova, Manager, [BCLA](#)

Annette DeFaveri, Executive Director, [BCLA](#)

BC SRC 2020 CO-CHAIR

We are delighted that Alicia Dobbs, New Westminster Public Library, accepted the position of incoming Co-Chair for the 2020 BC SRC. Alicia works in the Children's and Teen Department at the NWPL and has been involved in planning and delivering BC SRC since 2013. While her role as a Children's Librarian lets her take on a wide variety of programming, from reading to babies to taking teens shopping, BC SRC is always the highlight of her year.



INCREASING INCLUSION

BC SRC welcomes the participation of all children and their families and we continue to seek ways to provide an accessible and fully inclusive program. Some examples that help us build an inclusive and diverse program include:

Core Print Materials are produced with a minimum of text in order to support the participation of children of any language and any reading ability.

A [video in ASL](#) (American Sign Language) with English subtitles, on both the BC SRC staff and kids' websites, welcomes children with hearing impairment to the BC SRC.

Annotated book lists are produced each year indicating titles available in audio formats (commercially, and through [NNELS](#) and [CELA](#)), so it's convenient for anyone with a perceptual or print impairment to find theme-related titles to listen to.

Each year the BC SRC Program Manual is reviewed by Dr. Tess Prendergast ([Inclusive Early Literacy](#)) to ensure programs and activities include adaptations for different needs. With the assistance of Dr. Prendergast, general guidelines for Summer Programming Staff on how to increase inclusion are provided as part of the Program Manual. (Please see below for more details)

In 2019, in consultation with Dr. Carole Ford (Co-Director for Davis Learning Strategies, [The Whole Dyslexic Society](#)), dyslexia-friendly adaptations were made to print materials and supplemental Resources. (Please see below for more details)

A "[Families and Caregivers Page](#)" provides general information on the program, as well as explanations on how to join the program. Currently, it is available in [French](#) and [English](#). (See also "[Other Languages](#)", below.) NOTE: This page also provides a dropdown menu with links to BC libraries making it easy for families to find a library in their community!

Customizable "Parent Letters" are available on the BC SRC staff site for libraries to download and send to their local schools. These letters include language that explicitly supports children reading in whatever language they feel most comfortable. As well, the letters specifically express support for cultures that emphasize oral storytelling.

Support materials are available for parents and librarians, including [The Value of Summer Reading](#), (available in nearly 40 languages). The BC SRC staff site also includes a Google translate plug-in so visitors can readily translate any page.

Inclusion Review Team

A special thanks to our Consultant, Dr. Tess Prendergast ([Inclusive Early Literacy](#)) who reviewed the 2019 Manual and offered ideas and suggestions to increase the accessibility and inclusion of the programs and activities. In addition, Dr. Prendergast, provided us with some excellent general guidelines:

- Be aware that your audience will always include children of varying abilities.
- Recognize that it is the responsibility of each facilitator to make adjustments and accommodations to best suit the needs of their participants.
- Ensure all program promotions make it clear that these programs are welcoming and inclusive, and that program content should be adaptable.
- Feel comfortable to mix 'n match activities based on the needs and abilities of the children participating.
- Let Summer Students and/or Volunteers know it's OK to adapt a program/activity.
- Make sure your room set-up allows space for kids using wheelchairs and walkers.
- When possible, include (good!) books that feature children of different abilities and backgrounds.
- Normalize accommodations and/or participation of a child's caregiver with phrases such as "You can do this activity by yourself or with a partner".
- If an activity includes the use of plants (or a substance that may cause an allergic reaction), you may wish to include this info ahead of time to give people advance notice.

This year, we also worked with Dr. Prendergast to increase the visibility of Inclusion and Accessibility information on the BC SRC staff site. We revised the general guidelines for Summer Programming Staff on how to increase inclusion and ensured that this information was available with the full version of downloadable BC SRC Manual. The information is also available as a standalone on the Manual page of the BC SRC staff website, in the email overview of materials, and in a standalone blog post on the staff site to ensure as wide a reach as possible.

Many thanks to Dr. Carole Ford (retired Davis Dyslexia Correction Facilitator, current Co-Director for Davis Learning Strategies, [The Whole](#)

[Dyslexic Society](#) who offered suggestions on how to make SRC materials more dyslexia-friendly, including:

- placing the icons on the Reading Record on the left-hand side to reinforce left > right progression
- increasing the size of font on the “I’ve joined the SRC, now what” letter to 12-14 ppt
- producing “I’ve joined the SRC, now what” letter in [dyslexia-friendly weighted font](#) (intended to address: contrast /blindness, letter confusion or rotation, and crowding)
- simplifying the text on the Certificate of Completion
- maintaining minimal text on the Reading Records

Dr. Ford also suggested additional resources on dyslexia, which we added to the About page on Inclusion ([Davis Dyslexia Association International](#); [Davis Dyslexia and Autism Facilitators’ Association of Canada](#) and [The Whole Dyslexic Society](#)).

BC SRC STAFF WEBSITE

<http://kidssrc.libraries.coop/>

Resources

Libraries have access to a wealth of outreach and promotional resources in the [Resources](#) section of the staff website: images, icons, this year’s logo and font (“Freehand 575”), icons, report card stuffers in French and English, to name just a few.

In 2019, we renamed this section from “Downloads” to “Resources” to more accurately reflect its use and intention. We also reorganized it to make things easier to find.

There are four sections:

1. PROMOTION & OUTREACH: GRAPHICS (includes logos, theme title, images, etc)
2. PROMOTION & OUTREACH: DOCUMENTS (includes parent and school letters, report card stuffers, PSAs, etc.)
3. PROGRAM MANUAL (includes programs and booklists)

- 4. SUPPLEMENTARY DOCUMENTATION (includes, supplemental, read-to-me and print-on-demand reading records, certificates of completion, colouring sheets, DIY t-shirt images, etc.)

These resources are heavily used by library staff throughout the province.

- Pageviews: 45,468
- Number of users: 4074
- Number of sessions: 7009

TOP 10 PAGES	HITS	
/home	11,839	26.04%
/program-resources/	5,395	11.87%
/resources/	5,188	11.41%
/resources/poster-characters/	2,884	6.34%
/materials/	1,601	3.52%
/themes/	1,292	2.84%
/downloads/image-icons/	1,286	2.83%
/about-us/information-for-caregivers/	1,281	2.82%
/materials/reading-record/	1,246	2.74%
/materials/poster/	1,106	2.43%

Summer Reading Club 2019

HOME ABOUT US MATERIALS RESOURCES THEMES BOOK LISTS STORY AWARD BLOG ARCHIVE CONTACT US

The 2019 BC Summer Reading Club theme is:

IMAGINE THE POSSIBILITIES!

We are thrilled to announce this year's BC Summer Reading Club artist is:

Jami Gigot

Jami has always loved the way 'imagination' can take you to the different places you create in your head. Growing up in Madison, Wisconsin, summer break meant a perfect mix of reading, lots of outdoor play, and make believe games, such as fending off an imaginary shark in her grandmother's pool! She loves to travel and has lived in Los Angeles, London, and now Vancouver.

Her love of books, writing, and art initially led her to the film industry. As a digital artist, Jami has worked on several films including *Pan*, *The Chronicles of Narnia - Prince Caspian*, and *Antman and the Wasp*. Regardless of what she is illustrating, Jami typically begins with the spark of a story and likes to explore her initial idea with both sketches and words.

It was while reading to her two children, Mae and Sebastian, that she began to explore the world of illustrating picture books. Lucky us! Jami's delightful picture books include *Mae and the Moon* (Ripple Grove Press, 2015) and *Seb and the Sun* (Ripple Grove Press, 2018). In a wonderful case of serendipity, Jami had already begun work on her newest book "Imagination Vacation" (Albert Whitman, Fall 2019) before we asked her to imagine the possibilities with the BC SRC!

Filled with colour, whimsy, depth, and gentle humour, Jami's il...

The Value of Summer Reading
Letters for Families and Caregivers in multiple languages.
Information for Families and Caregivers
Information pour les familles et les aidants

Tweets by @BC_SIRC

Cynthia Ford @BC_SIRC
We are SO thrilled to tell you that the amazing Bambi Erdund @bambread is our 2020 BC Summer Reading Club artist. Visit kids.libraries.coop. Get ready to "Explore Our Universe" #BCSRC @CUPEBC @BCGovNews

Nov 12, 2019

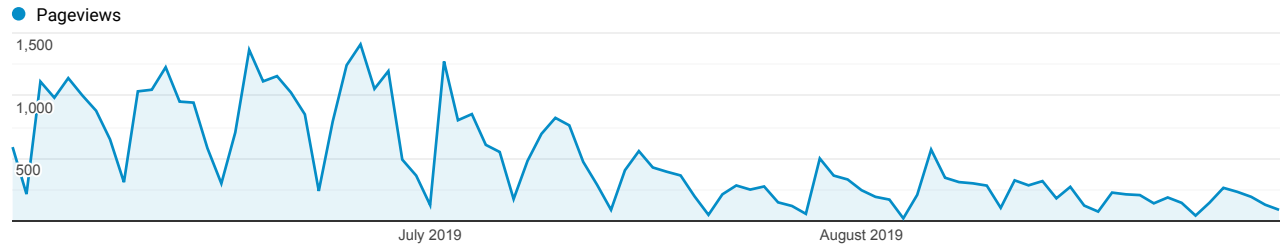
Cynthia Ford Retweeted
NVCL (City Library) @northvanCityLib
Check out our Instagram for today's #SummerReadingClub celebration photos! @bcsrc @Civ0kNorthVan

Overview

All Users
100.00% Pageviews

Jun 1, 2019 - Aug 31, 2019

Overview



Pageviews 45,468	Unique Pageviews 14,762	Avg. Time on Page 00:00:31	Bounce Rate 0.53%	% Exit 15.42%
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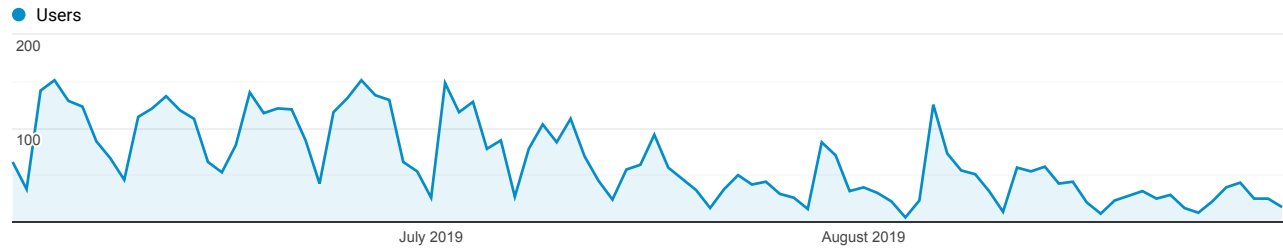
Page	Pageviews	% Pageviews
1. /	11,839	26.04%
2. /resources/resources/	5,395	11.87%
3. /resources/	5,188	11.41%
4. /resources/poster-characters/	2,884	6.34%
5. /materials/	1,601	3.52%
6. /themes/	1,292	2.84%
7. /downloads/image-icons/	1,286	2.83%
8. /about-us/information-for-caregivers/	1,281	2.82%
9. /materials/reading-record/	1,246	2.74%
10. /materials/poster/	1,106	2.43%

Audience Overview

All Users
100.00% Users

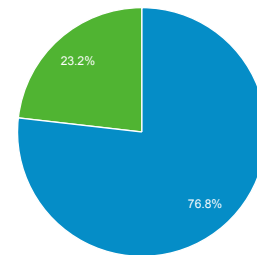
Jun 1, 2019 - Aug 31, 2019

Overview



Users 4,074	New Users 3,623	Sessions 7,009
Number of Sessions per User 1.72	Pageviews 45,468	Pages / Session 6.49
Avg. Session Duration 00:02:48	Bounce Rate 0.53%	

■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



Language	Users	% Users
1. en-us	2,220	54.43%
2. en-ca	1,294	31.72%
3. en-gb	284	6.96%
4. en	116	2.84%
5. zh-cn	48	1.18%
6. ko	34	0.83%
7. ko-kr	21	0.51%
8. zh-tw	8	0.20%
9. ja-jp	7	0.17%
10. fr-ca	6	0.15%

The Resources page will continue to evolve and grow as we explicitly welcome requests from libraries for resources that will help them to better serve their communities.

Accessible Booklists

Each year one of our Content Creators generates an annotated booklist for each of the 7 weekly themes. Using award lists and peer suggestions to choose the best available titles, they ensure these titles are in print and published within the last 5 years (or, if a “classic” with a strong and explicit reason for selection indicated). The lists are sent to ULS (United Library Services) so the books can be made available for purchase by libraries, and to *NNELS and CELA for possible recording as audio books. In order to make the lists as useful as possible, they are further annotated with a series of icons (please see chart below). The icons also appear at the top of each weekly booklist for handy reference.

Our designer Neil Firkins made our booklists conveniently accessible for anyone wishing to listen to their summer reading. A yellow headphone icon indicates whether a book is available in audio format. As titles become available through NNELS and CELA, a blue or green headphone icon is added.

	Canadian author or illustrator		Available as Audiobook
	BC author or illustrator		Available from NNELS
	Partner Recommendations		Available from CELA

*NNELS and CELA provide access to audiobooks for people with perceptual or print disabilities.

Neil also added a direct link at the top of each booklist to both the NNELS and CELA sites, so staff and patrons can easily learn about the resources available for people with perceptual and print disabilities.

A flag icon immediately identifies if a title is by a BC or Canadian author and/or illustrator.



BC PUBLISHERS BOOKLISTS

In 2017, [BCLA](#) and the Association of Book Publishers of BC ([ABPBC](#)) marked the beginning of a [collaborative partnership](#). As one small part of this relationship our [partners at ABPBC](#) contributed their own [theme-related titles](#) and annotations. These are indicated by the book icon “Partner Recommendations”.



SRC EXCHANGE BLOG AND PRESS-READY MATERIALS

The SRC Exchange Blog continues to allow us to be more responsive to the shifting demographics within the province. Using the blog, libraries can post if they have extra materials and/or are in need of more. The blog facilitates sharing among libraries.

This year, many libraries reported especially high registrations. In addition to the SRC Exchange Blog, libraries had access to additional materials via the Downloads Page — <http://kidssrc.libraries.coop/download-page/>

Here they were able to access Supplementary Reading Records, Press-Ready Reading Records, and the Print-on-Demand Reading Records (11 x 17, folded).



INCREASING LANGUAGE ACCESSIBILITY



French

Thanks to the Ministry of Education, Libraries Branch, children and their families were able to join in and “Imaginez les possibilités!” (Imagine the Possibilities!) Core Print materials were provided in English and French:

- poster—one side English; one side French
- reading record—English cover on one side; French cover on the other
- bookmarks—both languages on bookmarks

BC SRC also produced a thematic French booklist and French downloadable letters for parents, schools, media, and other interested groups that are available on <https://kidssrc.libraries.coop/2019/>

In 2019:

- School visits to French-language classes: 398
- Children reached in French-language class visits: 9,544
- Adults reached in French-language class visits: 462
- French Language In-Library Events: 8
- Children reached at French Language In-Library Events: 156
- Adults reached at French Language In-Library Events: 19

As part of our larger inclusion and language accessibility goals, Core Print Materials are produced with a minimum of text in order to support the participation of children of any language and any reading ability.

ASL

We include an audio and an [ASL \(American Sign Language\) video](#) on both BC SRC websites to welcome children with hearing and/or print-impairment to the BC SRC assuring them that all reading counts, including ASL stories.

Other Languages

It's been a wonderful way to connect with newcomer families—their children hear about the program at school or via friends, and they want to join too. It helps build a sense of community because they're becoming a part of this program that so many of their peers are participating in as well. *New Westminster Public Library*

For many newcomer families the BC SRC not only supports new language skills but also connects them with their local library and new community.

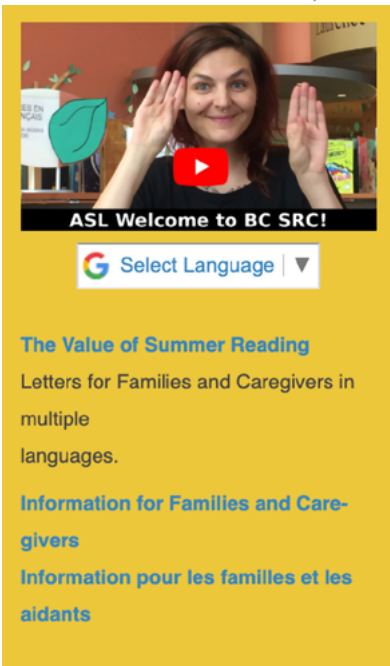
A recent survey of languages spoken in Burnaby homes indicates that more than 100 languages (other than English) are spoken in the homes of Burnaby students. (Source: <https://burnabyschools.ca/about-sd41-overview/>)

As we continue to evolve the Language Accessibility component of the BC SRC, we are aware of the complexity of the challenges involved and focus our efforts on:

- creating Core Print Materials with a minimum of text in order to support the participation of children of any language and any reading ability
- increasing our understanding of the needs of the various language communities, and the best way to support them.
- providing better support to library staff (specifically, SRC) in connecting to Newcomer communities
- creating background/support materials for Newcomer parents to increase their understanding of the BC SRC and confidence in how to access it at their local library.

To date, background/support materials include:

- A letter for parents on The Value of Summer Reading, translated into nearly 40 languages. The site also includes a Google translate plug-in so visitors can readily translate any page.
 - Customizable “Parent Letters” are available on the staff site for libraries to download and send to their local schools. These letters include language that explicitly supports children reading in whatever language they feel most comfortable. As well, the letters specifically express support for cultures that emphasize oral storytelling.
 - A “Parent Page”. This page provides general information on the program, as well as simple explanations on how to join the program. Currently, it is available in French and English. (The content has been adapted for a brochure, designed specifically to meet the needs of Newcomers.) This page exists year-round on the Staff site (Information for Families and Caregivers) and is linked annually to the Kids’ site (Info for Grownups). In 2019, the language of the title was revised from Information for Caregivers to Information for Families and Caregivers to better reflect the end user’s understanding.



The SRC Provincial Coordinator worked with members of BCLA’s Multicultural Services Committee (MSC) to create a sustainable print tool to welcomes newcomer families. The brochure explains the BC SRC program and can be used for outreach with newcomer communities. This document is in the final stages of production and will be ready to distribute to agencies January 2020.

BC SRC SERVING FIRST NATIONS CHILDREN & COMMUNITIES

Through the work of libraries, BC SRC continues to build a program that serves Indigenous communities. In 2019 BC SRC included:

- Indigenous Language In-Library Events: 32
- Children reached at Indigenous Language In-Library Events: 1,347
- Adults reached at Indigenous Language In-Library Events: 93

A new resource page: BC SRC Serving First Nations Children and Communities (<https://kidssrc.libraries.coop/bc-src-serving-first-nations-children-and-communities/>) grew out of a 2019 BCLA Conference session: **BC SRC Serving First Nations Children and Communities.**

During the session, a panel of four representatives from three libraries gathered to discuss the successes, challenges, and evolution of serving First Nations children and communities through BC SRC. The topics touched on included: relevancy, factors in participation, partnerships, funding, adaptations, creating positions and policy to increase relevancy and engagement, training. Each of these topics could, of course, have filled an entire session. The panel included:



Left to right: Laurette Lapalme (Hazelton District Public Library)
Ruth Cooper (Hazelton District Public Library)
Beth Dimond (Prince Rupert Public Library)
Wendy Wright (Smithers Public Library)

The session began with by establishing a common starting point:

- we agree and understand that First Nations' guidance and participation is essential to building inclusive and respectful SRC programs
- we understand that guidance and participation come after we have established trusting relationships, after we have learned from our communities, and after we have learned from our successes and mistakes
- we understand that this process is a journey and we are taking the first steps of the journey

The panel members generously agreed to share some of the resources they have developed with their communities. In addition, we included the slide show from the session, as well as a video recording of the session, for those who were unable to join us. We invite all library staff to continue to contribute to this page. (<https://kidssrc.libraries.coop/bc-src-serving-first-nations-children-and-communities/>)

Many thanks go to our dedicated panel members and their communities and to filmmaker TJ Galmut. A special thanks to Libraries Branch, Ministry of Education, for their continued and generous support in increasing accessibility to the BC SRC.

Panel Member Bios

Ruth Cooper (hdpl.ruth@citywest.ca) has been with the Hazelton District Public Library, located on unceded Gitxsan territory, for over 25 years. She has been involved with every aspect of library work from watering the plants to serving as Acting Librarian. She currently co-ordinates the Summer Reading Clubs, takes care of the non-fiction collection, co-ordinates the Fostering Literacy Program, and acts as the library's community literacy liaison. Her passion is patron service in all its diversity.

Beth Dimond (beth@princerupertlibrary.ca) has worked in the Children's Department of the Prince Rupert Public Library for more than 35 years, and is always thrilled to welcome newcomers, whether two or eighty-two, to the library. Born and raised on the north coast, she feels very fortunate to live and work surrounded by the rich cultural heritage of the Tsimshian, Haida and Nisgaa people. She is excited that this rich heritage is becoming more accessible to the general public, and libraries in particular. Beth is continually looking for ways the library can connect with families and individuals within

her community, as well as those living in the outlying communities beyond her city's harbour.

Laurette Lapalme (hdpl.laurette@citywest.ca) belongs to the Witsuwit'en Nation, and has worked for the Hazelton District Public Library off and on since 1988, and has been a steady part of the staff for the last four years. Part of her post-secondary education involved First Nations Library training in tandem with training to become a curator for a First Nations museum. This is of particular note since she had the privilege of traveling to and working with several First Nations organizations all across the province of BC. She has worked in many different fields, but has devoted most of her life to working in the Hazelton area focusing on Culture and Tourism. She is extremely interested in adding to the energy being devoted toward Truth and Reconciliation, and in providing First Nations people a recognized and appreciated part of our local library via the promotion of our special collections.

Wendy Wright (director@smitherslibrary.ca) serves as Director of the Smithers Public Library on the unceded territory of the Witsuwit'en Nation in northwestern BC, and as a Director-at-Large on the BCLA Board. Wendy has always loved connecting people with stories, ideas, and information in various formats and enjoys creating dynamic opportunities for people to learn from one another. In 2017 the Smithers Public Library was honoured with the British Columbia Library Association's inaugural Building Better Communities Award for its work around local National Aboriginal Day celebrations. In 2018 the Library's Board received the Super Trustees Award from the British Columbia Library Trustees Association for empowering the library to advance reconciliation in its community through policies, programs, events, and collections.



BC SRC KIDS' SITE (BCSRC.CA)

Thanks to the talented efforts of Shayne Letain and Neil Firkins, children and their families were able to *Imagine the Possibilities* with their local library through www.bcsrc.ca. Through the BC SRC Kids' website children found fun options for interaction, creativity, and an opportunity to increase their literacy and digital-literacy skills.

- Pageviews: 6,470
- Number of users: 1,322
- Number of sessions: 1,755

Imagine the Possibilities!



When you scroll down the imaginative world of SRC artist Jami Gigot fills the screen. Delightful discoveries await the keen eye! In the world of *Imagine the Possibilities!* anything is possible!

Meet the Artist

The BC SRC team created a short video of Jami at work in her studio. Kids and parents, alike enjoyed getting a behind-the-scenes glimpse of the 2019 SRC artist!

Watch the Animation!

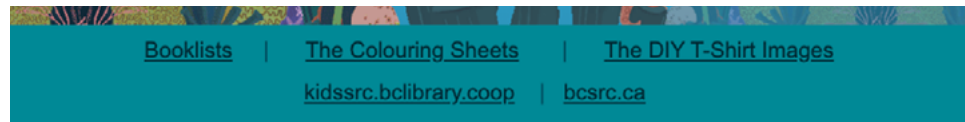
Shayne Letain created an animated film from Jami's delightful artwork. These videos are also accessible from the [staff site](#). Libraries were invited to download the videos directly and run them from their library's SRC page.

French Version

The French page is accessible via a direct link in the top left-hand corner, below the menu bar. When on the French page, the English link is in the same location.



Links across the bottom include the Booklists, Colouring Sheets, the DIY t-shirt images, and a link to the staff site.



Share Your Story

Children were invited to share a story and submit it to the site. There were six wonderful theme-related prompts for inspiration!





Each submission was reviewed for content, and then published on the site within 24 hours (or less). [Guiding Principles for approving submissions to bcsrc.ca](#) were provided on the [Staff Site](#).

Libraries were reminded that submitting a story is a perfect activity to share with teachers in their communities looking for a fun end-of-year activity that bridges the connection between school and the BC Summer Reading Club.

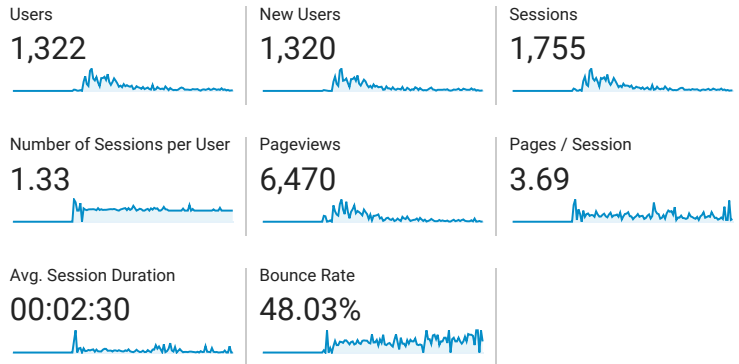
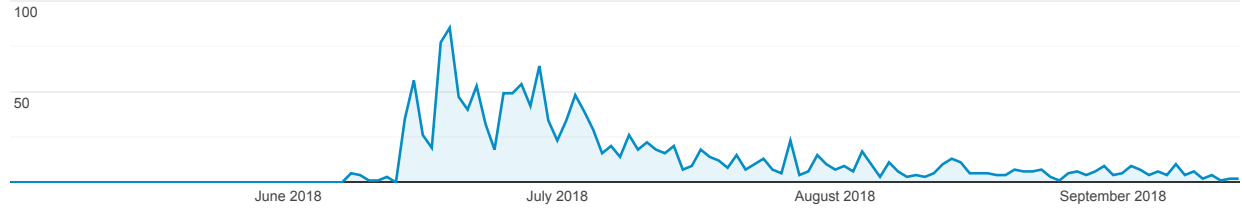
Audience Overview

May 1, 2018 - Sep 15, 2018

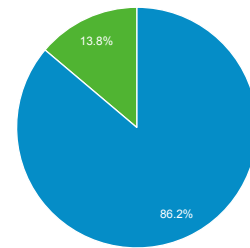
All Users
100.00% Users

Overview

● Users



■ New Visitor ■ Returning Visitor



Language	Users	% Users
1. en-us	617	46.50%
2. en-ca	502	37.83%
3. en-gb	99	7.46%
4. zh-cn	46	3.47%
5. en	15	1.13%
6. ko-kr	11	0.83%
7. ja-jp	9	0.68%
8. zh-tw	5	0.38%
9. ru-ru	4	0.30%
10. ko	3	0.23%

COMMUNITY STORY AWARD WINNER

In 2013 BCLA, introduced the BC SRC Community Story Award in order to recognize and honour those stories that described the impact of BC SRC on participants and library staff. Each year the BC SRC presents the award to an individual whose story best demonstrates how important BC SRC is to children and community members.

The 2019 winner was Gen Carmody of the Pemberton and District Public Library. Her story “Welcome to Summer Reading Club” speaks to building great connections with the community through the BC SRC .

About Gen

Gen is the Technology and Digital Services Coordinator at the Pemberton & District Public Library and she loves her job! Everyday is different and exciting and she is always learning! She is extremely grateful to have such a wonderful library and team to work with.



Gen grew up on a small island called Kangaroo Island off the coast of South Australia. She came to Canada for a holiday in 2007, and after spending the winter in Whistler, fell in love with the place and the people. She’s been there ever since.

When she’s not curled up with a book, you can find Gen outdoors—snowboarding in winter; skateboarding, hiking, climbing, camping and fishing in the summer.

“Welcome to Summer Reading Club*” by Gen Carmody

This year was the first year I was involved in our Summer Reading Club Program at the Pemberton & District Library and I loved it! Our small community is very busy during summer, enjoying the outdoors, and we are usually pretty quiet during these months. Our Summer Reading Club program in previous years had become a little stagnant. Parents would sign up the same few children every year whether they were interested in the program or not. Program attendance was very low and in 2017 only three reading logs were completed and handed in. We felt that a new approach was necessary to get children excited about reading over summer while supporting literacy through activities and programming that would fit in with busy summer vacations and family adventures. After an amazing afternoon brainstorming session (this literally was one of my favourite days at work), we decided to create and design our own scavenger hunt full of activities (many came from the SRC website). These activities could be completed anytime during the summer. All of the staff were on board and we were really excited about our revamped SRC! We set ourselves a goal of handing out 50 reading logs and having way more than 3 reading logs returned.

By completing activities in the scavenger hunt and by reading every day, participants would earn points. The child with the most points in their age group by the end of the program would win a prize. Children and parents loved it! We had well over 100 children register and over 50 returned completed reading logs! The programs we held during the summer were incredibly popular with over 100 in attendance at our SRC End Party. We even had to rent a room in the Community Centre to fit everyone in! All on a shoestring budget and without our usual summer student.

This was an incredible experience! I remember so many moments where one of the staff would come out to the staff area and share a story of how a child had just melted their heart with the amount of effort they went to and just how adorable they were! I was also blown away by the reception our SRC programming received in the community! We did not expect it to be as well received as it was. We had to hold a tiebreaker event to decide a winner as so many children completed every single activity and read every single day! Although it was a lot of hard work and there are things we will change next year, the feedback from parents and children was overwhelmingly positive and heartwarming. Parents loved that the scavenger hunt allowed them to do the activities as a family and have quality time together. Many said the library became an active part of their summer, for some SRC became a weekly routine and the children were nagging them to go to the Library! Children

were excited and engaged, they loved finding the secret words we had hidden around town and many told us that they couldn't wait until next year's SRC!

If I had to choose, just one thing that made SRC so special this year, it was how many children I have gotten to know better through my interactions with them. Many of the scavenger hunt activities required that children come to the library and use resources or interact with staff. This then gave us an opportunity to connect with many of the children and their parents. I especially loved the activity where participants had to come and tell a staff member a joke. Many children had never even spoken to a staff member before and many practiced their jokes at home before coming to tell one of us. It was very moving to watch them overcome their shyness and interact with us, and we all were able to create special bonds with many of the children over the SRC that have lasted long past the summer! I feel so proud of our team and what we achieved this year with SRC and I too can't wait for next year!

*A note from Gen: I titled my story "Welcome to Summer Reading Club". This was not only the title of a letter we sent home with the children who registered, it was also my welcome to SRC.



SRC CYCLE

We were once again successful in getting Core Print Materials to libraries by the end of April, in time for promotional activities. We were also able to get t-shirts to the libraries in good time. Library staff who purchase t-shirts, typically wear them during their school visits, increasing the excitement for the children. We are exploring options to increase our ability to sell SRC t-shirts to the public. Currently, we have neither the warehouse nor the shipping capacity to do this.

We continue to explore ways to "tweak" our preparation for BC SRC in order to accommodate any possible delays in production with timely delivery of materials to libraries.

COMMUNICATIONS AND OUTREACH

Regular announcements and updates are sent out via the BCLA and BC SRC listservs. As well, emails are sent specifically and directly to the SRC contact at each library with information on such things as quantities of materials to be received, survey links, etc.

In addition, the SRC Provincial Coordinator submits articles to YAACing and posts on the SRC Blog to keep libraries informed and involved, and tweets as @BC_SRC.

The BC SRC Community Story Award provides an additional opportunity for libraries to share the impact of the BC SRC in their community. This was wonderfully demonstrated at this year's BCLA Awards ceremony when the 2019 winning submission was read aloud. Gen Carmody's story "Welcome to the Summer Reading Club" demonstrates how the BC SRC helps to build important connections with the community.

BC Library staff are invited to post on the BC SRC Blog, requesting and/or sharing information, ideas and materials. Francesca de Freitas from VPL's Children's Library shared this delightful story of "adorable SRC excitement":

Now I'm a Reader, too!

Some kids in our co-op put their reading records on their front doors so they show-off and can see what other kids have been reading, and so the Summer Reading Club is not an infrequent topic of hallway conversation between the school-aged kids.

This morning my 5-year-old neighbour Ruby (starting K in Sept) came knocking very softly and, unusually shyly, at my door. She wanted to tell me she had joined the 'library summer reading plan' and that last night she'd read an entire book all by her self for the very first time. I asked her what the book was she told me it was 'Time for Bed, Fred,' and that her mom only had to help her with a couple of words that were hard. 'Now I'm a reader too!' she said.

We were so charmed at work that I'm bringing her an SRC poster and few buttons to celebrate this momentous becoming a reader milestone!

The BC SRC had a strong presence at the BC Library Conference. The Provincial Coordinator, along with Co-Chairs, Jennifer Lee and Laura Zaytsoff were

present at the BC SRC Trade Show booth throughout the conference. Also present were 2019 Story Award winner, Gen Carmody, and 2019 Artist, Jami Gigot. Thanks to funding from the BC Ministry of Education, Libraries Branch, the BC SRC also presented the BCLA Conference session: **BC SRC Serving First Nations Children and Communities.** (See more above)

Feedback from this session was overwhelmingly positive:

The most impactful session I attended was BC Summer Reading Club Serving First Nations Children and Communities. Though I am a children's librarian in a large metro area, it was interesting to learn about the challenges and successes rural BC communities have had using the SRC to reach underserved youth. It helped inform me about what it's like to serve large geographical areas and the constraints on service (access to internet, funding). I feel like I can better help advocate for those communities now. It was also surprising to find out that some of these libraries are instituting way more progressive policies around diversifying staff than large urban centres. Kind of shatters the myth of the conservative small town.



UNIQUE COMMUNITY ASPECTS IMPACTING BC SRC DELIVERY

On the annual survey, we ask both quantitative and qualitative questions. Both types of questions are included to help assess and evolve the program. This year we were curious about additional challenges libraries may encounter delivering the SRC program. The question we asked was:

If possible, please describe any unique aspects to your community that may impact SRC delivery and/or participation:

- A unique aspect of our region is the large number of First Nations families from three major Nations, the Witsuwet'in and the Gitksan. Finding culturally sensitive and appropriate materials and delivery methods is vitally important to the success of the clubs and the outreach.
- Our library service area is very large and contains over a dozen distinct communities ranging from incorporated municipalities to Indian reserves to unincorporated communities and rural areas. The only way

we can provide SRC services to most of our families is to engage in outreach programming and take the program to the communities—in some cases over 75 km away. This is a more expensive, but more inclusive approach to SRC.

- For a small community we have a number of activities for children; we have found that by working with the school and the community parks programs we increase attendance at our events.
- Some of our community members do not live near a library branch so may not see as much BC SRC promotion. We also have a very large multilingual community and language barriers might inhibit families from learning about the program.
- The heightened awareness of the intergenerational trauma brought on by the residential school experiences of our community members, and our desire to put our Truth and Reconciliation commitments into action makes decolonizing all our services challenging. We make every effort to keep the SRC programming flexible in timing, in delivery methods and in content.
- We have a large First Nations population in our community and have been able to partner with 3 First Nation bands so that First Nations children were able to participate either in special events or SRC activities at the library.
- A lot of people coming into town can live up to an hour away. This can affect attendance.
- Our Library serves an area the size of Luxembourg, we are in St'at'imc Territory and strive to always make the themes relevant to our local culture and context. It helps that themes are general enough to allow us to maneuver.
- Our community is a very small widespread community. Many families only come into town once a week for grocery shopping (especially in the summer). Many of the students lived 15-45 minutes away from the library and some parents simply did not want to commit to driving in every week.
- Our summer staffing levels do not permit us to participate in many special events due to a lack of weekend/evening staff.
- Small population, no public transit
- Our community is a small retirement community. Our school teaches 30-36 children from K-12. Most of the students live 10km outside of

the community on the local reserve making it difficult for students to attend community events.

- We focused our SRC this year on visiting relatives and tourists as well as locals. Children visiting from other communities recognized the SRC posters at the Museum and staff explained about BC One Card and directed them to the library for reading material.
- Our community has a very large tourist/seasonal population that is not reflected in the population statistics for our service area. We have many children who are in town for just a week or two for their holiday but still want to participate in our SRC events. So, our registration for SRC is a bit different than other libraries because our attendees are coming and going all summer long. We keep our structure very open to accommodate for visitors who are just in town for short periods.
- The loss of mills and other sources of work has had a huge impact on many of our communities and this affects participation in all events including SRC.
- Our community is a bedroom community—working parents take their kids to larger communities for care and our library is on highway. These circumstances affect participation in SRC. Also, many working parents chose to send their kids to summer camps than run Mon – Fri and that too can affect participation in week day SRC events.
- We are a very small rural community and the SRC is the only free activity for children during the summer.
- We are considered a rural community so many of our children and families do not live in close proximity to our library. We do our best to have outreach events and connect with the local elementary schools to help us with reach and promotion.
- I believe an effective way of marketing our program is word of mouth. Many people here enjoy the face to face interactions. People are happy to see me in the community.
- We have two back to back ceremonies as we can't fit everyone in our room.
- One of our biggest challenges is that we serve a large area geographically. This means that it is very difficult to get SRC supplies swiftly from one branch to another.



SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENT FROM 2019 SURVEY

The following comments were in response to the question:

Describe one change you think would improve the BC Summer Reading Club program.

- We strive to include more tweens each year!
- Somehow (magically) make it more appealing and relevant to older kids. As soon as they become competent readers and reach the age of about 9 or 10, they become less inclined to participate.
- As always, more funding is helpful. To help encourage reading, we like to give out prizes and rewards and more local funding would help with that.
- Our library is unable to get govt grants for a summer student (too few hours required since our community is small). So we struggle to do the work required to plan/prepare a great program.
- Access through BCLA to some sort of online tracking program such as Beanstack. Some larger libraries/systems may already have these tools available, but it would be great for smaller libraries to be able to offer something to our patrons.
- Please stop individually packing medals in small plastic bags, it is very wasteful and not necessary.
- Maybe having more interesting activity ideas in the manual for older kids?
- We think the program is great and really appreciate all of the work that goes into preparing the materials for libraries each summer.
- I'd like to hear more from other libraries—how do they apply the SRC model? What's worked well for them?
- The only issue I ever seem to have is that children over about age 9 stop participating in large numbers. What can we do to engage older readers who aren't yet teens?
- We need to promote and add both the 0-5 age group and the Teens!
- A lot of meaningful work goes into this program and it is amazing that we have access to all the resources—thank-you!
- If there is a way to give tweens more of an individual focus, this might

be helpful. When we program for them under the umbrella of SRC, sometimes they feel “too old” to participate.

- I think it is pretty wonderful the way it is. Our local library federation has a SRC student workshop to orientate students in June and it is always a very valuable event.
- Honestly, everything was wonderful. I know this isn't that helpful but communication was clear and concise. The portal is great and there are endless resources available on the website. Thank you for all of your hard work!
- Discontinue the postcards. :)
- I think you guys do a fantastic job!!!!
- Making the content more accessible for Summer Students working without a lot of mentorship would be beneficial.
- Change the name to Summer Reading Challenge. A “challenge” style of program where we remove the word “club” and open up participation to a diversity of literacies. This would help attract kids who aren't super into reading.
- It would be amazing to get regional Summer Reading club programmers (staff, summer students, volunteers) together to brainstorm and inspire each other. Feasible? Not sure. The creativity that would/could result from a meeting of like minds would be amazing though.
- Possibility of getting an SRC stamp or two for the reading records instead of stickers—more environmentally friendly.
- I think it could be beneficial to incorporate more indigenous authors and authors of colour into the SRC framework. Although having books by varying authors wouldn't really change the program, I think representation, especially of indigenous authors, is really important for our children up here in the North. Although of course, this could be location specific, and we could always select those books ourselves.



CHANGES AS A RESULT OF 2018 REVIEW:

- engaged a graphic designer to design conference display materials,
- continued to have printer produce conference display materials (instead of separate supplier) thereby reducing staff time and costs,
- worked with Dr. Carole Ford (retired Davis Dyslexia Correction Facilitator, current Co-Director for Davis Learning Strategies, The Whole Dyslexic Society) who offered suggestions on how to make SRC materials more dyslexia-friendly,
- continued to work with Dr. Tess Prendergast (Inclusive Early Literacy) and SRC Co-Chairs to ensure programs and activities included adaptations for different needs,
- worked with Dr. Prendergast to increased visibility of Inclusion and Accessibility information on staff site. Revised general guidelines for Summer Programming Staff, on how to increase inclusion. Included guidelines with full version of downloadable Manual, as a standalone on the Manual page of the staff website, in the email overview of materials, as well as in a standalone blog post on the staff site, to ensure as wide a reach as possible,
- incorporated Partner Recommendation titles from our partners at ABPBC into the theme-booklists (as opposed to a separate list),
- created an icon for “Partner Recommendations” to distinguish titles from the staff list,
- added list and description of icons to booklist page on staff site to improve navigation,
- re-named Downloads page to Resource page to better reflect use of items,
- re-organized Resource page by use (e.g. Promotion & Outreach, Program Manual, Supplementary Documentation) to make navigating easier,
- worked with members of BCCLA’s Multicultural Services Committee (MSC) to create a sustainable print tool to welcomes newcomer families. The brochure explains the BC SRC program and can be used for outreach with newcomer communities. This document is in the final stages of production and will be ready to distribute to agencies January 2020,

- coordinated presentation at BCLA Conference: BC SRC Serving First Nations Children and Communities to address requests for more information, knowledge and support to libraries,
- coordinated and oversaw production of video recording of Conference session: BC SRC Serving First Nations Children and Communities with filmmaker TJ Galmut to make this session available to library staff unable to attend conference session,
- worked with panel from BCLA Conference session to create a brand new Resource Page on the BC SRC staff site: BC SRC Serving First Nations Children and Communities. This resource page grew out of the 2019 BCLA Conference session. During the session, a panel of four representatives from three libraries gathered to discuss the successes, challenges, and evolution of serving First Nations children and communities through BC SRC. The topics touched on included: relevancy, factors in participation, partnerships, funding, adaptations, creating positions and policy to increase relevancy and engagement, training. The panel members generously agreed to share some of the resources they have developed within their communities. In addition, we included the slide show from the session, as well as a video recording of the session, for those who were unable to join us. You may find all of these items here. We hope you will help us continue to build this page of resources. A special thanks to Libraries Branch, Ministry of Education, for their continued and generous support in increasing accessibility to the BC SRC,
- began working with medal supplier to reduce plastic bags,
- added questions to annual survey around languages (French and Indigenous) to better understand program needs and delivery,
- added question to annual survey asking libraries to describe any unique aspects to your community that may impact SRC delivery and/or participation to better understand the diversity of library/community needs,
- continued to successfully use SRC Exchange Blog to move materials between libraries and better address shifting demographics,
- documentation of website content for better managing of workflow and succession,
- added Print-on demand Reading Record as a standing item on Resource page to better manage last minutes changes to demographics and fluctuating quantities, and

- created promotional videos (artist profile and animation of artwork) for use on social media, and for individual library site promotion.

The BC SRC 2019 Report was prepared by:

Annette DeFaveri
BCLA, Executive Director

Cynthia Ford
BC SRC, Provincial Coordinator

November 20th, 2019

APPENDIX A

Research from around the world supports the statement that reading over the summer, through reading clubs as well as through other means, is crucial to a child's development in every aspect of life. Please see:

Study.com (For teachers and schools) - This site collects research as well as testimonials: <http://study.com/blog/why-is-summer-reading-so-important-for-kids-success.html>

Summer reading is critical to a child's ability to not only retain information learned the previous year, but also to grow in knowledge and [critical thinking skills](#) for the coming year. Literacy expert Julie Wood believes that it is necessary for children to [read on a daily basis](#) in order to maintain literacy skills learned in the previous school year.

Assistant Principal Twana Santana-Embry [likens reading to exercising](#). She encourages students to read in an effort to strengthen their reading skills. Just like exercising keeps muscles in shape, reading keeps the brain in shape. If you don't exercise, you lose muscle, and if you don't read, you will lose literacy skills.

A University of Tennessee, Knoxville, [research study shows](#) that children who don't read over the summer lose at least two months of reading development. This is often referred to as 'the summer slide' or the 'summer learning loss.' On the other hand, students who do read over the summer may gain a month of proficiency in reading. Reading over the summer is not a suggestion to keep kids busy; it's a critical requirement to help students stay on track for their entire educational career and beyond.

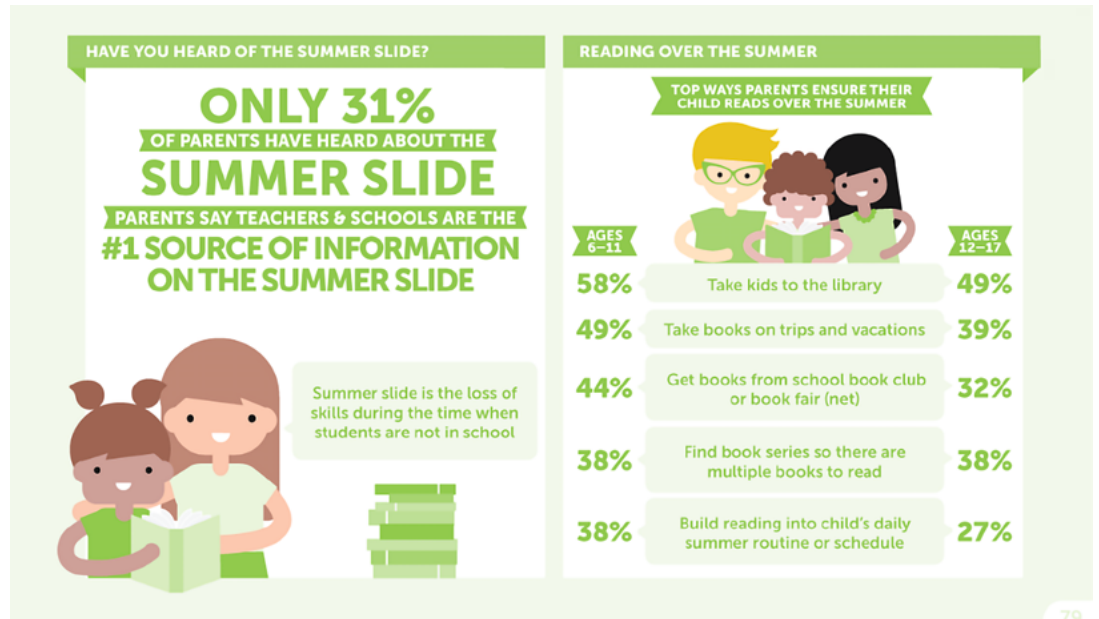
Reading, in general, is highly effective at building up a child's knowledge in a vast amount of subject areas, including English, math, science and history. [Studies conducted by Dr. Alice Sullivan](#) monitored the impact of reading in a child's life from elementary through adulthood. These studies discovered a greater intellectual progress in vocabulary, spelling and math than that of a child not reading more than the required school amount. Clearly, reading is a strong tool for growing in comprehension skills and general knowledge of the world. This is why children who read are able to stay ahead of their classmates during the school year.

From Decoda Literacy Solutions:

<http://www.decoda.ca/read-all-about-lit/summer-reading-and-children>

Summer Reading and Children

How do Canadian children and their parents feel about summer reading? 96% of Canadian parents and 84% of their children agree that summer reading is important and fun. But, the positive attitude doesn't always get translated into reading behaviour. Just over half of children will read during the summer without prompting, and an additional third will read if parents work at it. Summer Reading Club supports parents support their children reading over the summer.



Science News: University of Tennessee

“Summer Reading is Key to maintaining and Improving Students’ Skills”

To children, the summer slide means water, garden hoses and slippery plastic sheets. To teachers, the “summer slide” is the noted decrease in reading skills after a vacation without books.

University of Tennessee, Knoxville, faculty members Richard Allington and Anne McGill-Franzen have completed a three-year study showing a significantly higher level of reading achievement in students who received books for summer reading at home. Allington and McGill-Franzen are both professors of education; McGill-Franzen is also director of the Reading Center in the College of Education, Health and Human Sciences.

<https://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2010/07/100721112234.htm>

New York Public Library

Extensive Research on the value of Summer Reading Clubs has been done by the New York Public Library and that bibliography can be found here: <http://www.nysl.nysed.gov/libdev/summer/research.htm>

Other articles:

Celano, D., & Neuman S. B. (2001, February). The Role of Public Libraries in Children's Literacy Development: An Evaluation Report. Harrisburg: Pennsylvania Library Association.

Groups of children from the Philadelphia area were monitored for achievement differences between those enrolled in a public library summer reading program and those in a local recreation program. The study demonstrated a positive correlation in reading scores for those children who attended the library summer reading program. In additional findings it was reported that children in the library program spent more time with books, benefited from literacy related activities, and had increased parental involvement with reading.

Dominican University. (2010, June 22). The Dominican study: public library summer reading programs close the reading gap. Retrieved from http://www.dom.edu/academics/gslis/downloads/DOM_IMLS_research_in_brief_FINALweb.pdf

The Graduate School of Library and Information Science at Dominican University received a National Leadership Grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) for a three-year research study to determine the effects that public library summer reading programs had on student achievement. The study reported that students who participated in public library summer reading programs scored higher on reading achievement tests at the beginning of the next school year. Students who participated in public library summer reading programs also demonstrated higher reading achievement than those students who did not participate. The study concludes by observing that children who participate in public library summer reading programs returned to school ready to learn, improved their reading achievement and skills, increased their enjoyment of reading, were more motivated to read, were more confident in their reading, read beyond what was required in their free time, and perceived reading to be more important.

Krashen, S., & Shin F. (2004). Summer Reading and the Potential Contribution of the Public Library in Improving Reading for Children of Poverty. *Public Library Quarterly*, 23 (3/4), 99-109.

Research shows that there is very little difference in reading gains between children from high and low-income families during the school year. Over the summer, children from high-income families make better progress in reading and the difference is cumulative over time. Children from disadvantaged backgrounds benefit from increased access to books and attendance at public library programs.

APPENDIX B

BC SRC 2019 Survey and Evaluation of Outcomes

Form Preview : ID 187

display grid show structure

Note: This is a simple form preview. This form may display differently when added to your page based on normal inheritance from parent theme styles.

BC SRC 2019 Survey and Evaluation of Outcomes

Please take a moment to review this year's survey. As always, our goal is to maintain the intrinsic value of the BC SRC while improving our ability to measure outcomes and provide our funders with accountability. To that end, it is essential that each library SYSTEM (NOT BRANCH LIBRARIES OR INDIVIDUALS) complete the survey. By all means consult your staff but report once only please! Our future funding is dependent on us providing this information on our grant applications. Please spend some time reviewing the questions beforehand so that you and your staff will be comfortable answering them. We appreciate that you will not always be able to count the participants at a large event with complete accuracy. In those instances, please provide us with your best estimate. Please note, the survey deadline is September 21st, 2019. We need all surveys in by that date in order to report back to our funders in time for next year's application. Thank you for your efforts — this information will help us to guide the evolution of the BC SRC and ensure its relevancy.

1. Library Reporting

Name of your library/system *

Name of individual reporting *

First

Last

Email *

2. Volunteers

For each question in this section, please enter the number of volunteers who participated directly in the BC SRC. If your library does not have volunteers, please enter '0'.

Number of volunteers:

age 12 & under

age 13-18

age 19-24

age 25+



Number of volunteer hours (total, to the nearest hour) invested directly in the BC SRC. *

If your library does not have volunteers, please enter '0'.

3. Training and Development

Please specify the number of volunteers, summer students, and/or staff TRAINED or DEVELOPED as a direct result of the BC SRC. If none are applicable, please enter '0':

Number of volunteers trained or developed:

age 13-18

age 19-24

age 25+



Number of Summer Students (paid), trained or developed *

Number of opportunities specifically created for Indigenous students/staff *

Number of Staff (part-time or full-time), trained or developed *

4. School Visits

For each category, please enter the total number (without commas), even if that number is '0'. We appreciate this is a difficult task, so just do your best!

When do you conduct school visits?

- Mid May
- Late May
- Early June
- Mid June
- All of the above
- We don't do any school visits

Total number of class visits *

Please count each class in a school as one visit.

Total number of children reached *

Include all children present during school visits.

Total number of adults reached *

Include all adults present during school visits.

Total number of adults reached *

Include all adults present during school visits.

Of the total number of class visits, how many: *

Visits were to a French-language class

Children were reached in French-language class

Adults were reached in French-language class

 ⊕

If none are applicable, please enter '0'

Additional comments regarding school visits (optional):

5. Registration

When does your library begin registration?

- Early June
- Mid June
- Late June
- When school lets out
- Other

Please enter the total number of children registered: *

(number only):

Did you observe an increase in registrations this year?

Yes No About the same

To what do you attribute any significant changes in registration? If not applicable, please indicate "n/a".

If possible, please indicate the total number of children who intend to participate in French:

(number only):

What is the approximate percentage of French-speakers in your community?

(number only):

How does your library use the medals? *

To award completion of a reading goal

To acknowledge participation in the program

We don't use the medals

What reading goals (if any) does your library use to "measure" success? *

6. Community Events

Please indicate total number of each type of Community Event your library/system participated in. If your library did not participate in Community Events, please enter '0'.

Number of Community Events participated in:

Community Days	Farmer's Markets	Indigenous Community Events	Literacy Events	Museums	Maker Fairs	Medal Ceremonies	Parades	Pop-up libraries	Other
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/> ⊕

If you selected "other", please describe:

Total number of Community Events *

Total number of children reached *

Include all children present during Community Events. If none present, please enter '0'.

Total number of adults reached *

Include all adults present during Community Events. If none present, please enter '0'.

If possible, please describe any unique aspects to your community that may impact SRC delivery and/or participation:

⋮

7. In-Library Events

For each category, please enter the total number (without commas), even if that number is '0':

Total number of SRC-related events at your library (including class visits TO your library) *

Total number of children reached *

Include all children present during In-Library Events. If none present, please enter '0'.

Total number of adults reached *

Include all adults present during In-Library Events. If none present, please enter '0'.

Of the total number of In-Library events, how many: *

events were delivered in French or French/English

Children were reached in French-language events

Adults were reached in French-language events

If none are applicable, please enter '0'

Of the total number of In-Library events, how many: *

Events were delivered in an Indigenous language (with or without English)

Children were reached in Indigenous-language events

Adults were reached in Indigenous-language events

If none are applicable, please enter '0'

8. Partnerships

For each category, please indicate the total number of formal and informal partnerships you developed through collaboration as a direct result of the BC SRC at your library. If your library did not develop partnerships, please enter '0'.

Number of Partnerships developed: *

Local businesses (restaurants, stores)	Local services (fire station, police)	Local government	Newcomer Groups	First Nations bands	Groups with a First Nations focus (e.g. day camps)	Literacy organizations	Local media	Other
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Local businesses (restaurants, stores)	Local services (fire station, police)	Local government	Newcomer Groups	First Nations bands	Groups with a First Nations focus (e.g. day camps)	Literacy organizations	Local media	Other
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="text"/>

If you selected "other", please describe:

9. Quantities (Core Materials)

As we continue to refine the "Core Materials Packages", please indicate how closely the quantities you received matched your needs. Please note additional quantities of stickers and posters are provided intentionally. See below for more details.

Posters (extra allocated to build local partnerships, serve as prizes)

Way too much! Could have used a bit less Perfect! Could have used a bit more! Not nearly enough!

Reading Records

Way too much! Could have used a bit less Perfect! Could have used a bit more! Not nearly enough!

Stickers (10% extra allocated to accommodate visitors)

Way too much! Could have used a bit less Perfect! Could have used a bit more! Not nearly enough!

Bookmarks

Way too much! Could have used a bit less Perfect! Could have used a bit more! Not nearly enough!

Additional comments regarding quantities (optional):

10. Manual

Please see <http://kidssrc.libraries.coop/manual/>

Does your library use the Manual? *

Yes

No

If your library uses the BC SRC manual, who are the primary users? Please check all that apply. *

- Library Staff
- Our Summer Students
- Our Volunteers
- We don't use the manual

If your library uses the BC SRC Manual, which sections do you use? Please check all that apply. *

- We use all of it, as is, front to back!
- We pick and choose, mix 'n match!
- We use the Booklists
- We use the Activity sheets
- We use the Storytime sections
- We use the Primary sections
- We use the Tween sections

Do you print the manual or use it online only? *

- We print the whole thing
- We print selections only
- We only use it online

What, if any, changes would you like to see to the manual to make it more useful? If you don't use the manual at all, is there something that would make it more helpful to you?

11. Staff Website

<https://kidssrc.libraries.coop/resources/>

Which items do you use from the Resources page of BC SRC Staff website? Please check all that apply. *

- Logo
- Poster (English)
- Poster (French)
- Stickers
- Image icons
- Poster Characters

- Theme Title (English)
- Theme Title (French)
- Bookmarks (press ready)
- Reading Record (press ready)
- I've Joined the SRC, Now What? (English)
- I've Joined the SRC, Now What? (French)
- Parent Letter (English)
- Parent Letter (French)
- Press Release (English)
- Press Release (French)
- School Letter (English)
- School Letter (French)
- Radio and TV Public Service Announcement (English)
- Radio and TV Public Service Announcement (French)
- Summer Reading Tips for Parents (English)
- Summer Reading Tips for Parents (French)
- Report Card Stuffer (English)
- Report Card Stuffer (French)
- Full Manual (PDF)
- Web Quiz (English only)
- Certificate of Completion (English)
- Certificate of Completion (French)
- Colouring sheets
- Read-to-me (for pre-readers)
- Supplementary Reading Record
- Reading calendar
- Reading Record 11" x 17" (print-on-demand version)
- Poster 8.5" x 14" (English)
- Poster 8.5" x 14" (French)
- DIY T-shirt Image
- This year's font
- We don't use any of these items.

Is there something missing from the Resources page you'd like to see added

12. Final Thoughts

Please describe what you've observed to be the most significant values and benefits the BC SRC brings to your library and your community:

Describe one change you think would improve the BC Summer Reading Club program.

Submit

[Save and Continue Later](#)

[View results](#)

