

The Reading Agency and Libraries Present

# SPACE CHASE

Summer Reading Challenge 2019

[spacechase.org.uk](http://spacechase.org.uk)

Dear Teacher

Organised by charity The Reading Agency ([www.readingagency.org.uk](http://www.readingagency.org.uk)) and the UK public library network since 1999, the **Summer Reading Challenge** is the UK's biggest annual reading promotion for children aged 4 to 11. Last year, in Nottinghamshire 9,472 children took part. We're keen to reach even more children this year and we'd love for you to share with your pupils that the challenge is running.

The **Summer Reading Challenge** combines **FREE** access to books with fun, creative activities in the library during the summer holidays. Throughout the Challenge, library staff and volunteers support the children, helping them to discover new authors and illustrators and to explore a wide range of different types of books and ways of reading,

### How the Challenge works

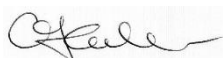
- Children sign up at their local library and receive a Space Chase mission folder
- Children borrow and read at least six library books of their own choice during the summer, collecting special stickers to complete their folder and incentives along the way
- Library staff and volunteers are on hand to talk to children about the books they have read.
- Children who complete the **Summer Reading Challenge** are presented with a certificate and a medal

### How do schools benefit?

- The **Summer Reading Challenge** is intrinsically inclusive and can contribute to the achievement of **ALL** your pupils including those with special educational needs, disadvantaged pupils and the most able
- It enhances and supports your school's reading policy and your mission for all children to read more widely and for pleasure
- It encourages parental engagement and family involvement in reading.
- It allows children to become more independent in their reading when choosing books and encourages using imagination and empathy to explore a text beyond the page
- It takes place at your local library and is a brilliant opportunity for extra-curricular activity
- It helps prevent the tendency for children's reading to dip over the holidays and supports the successful transition between year groups and stages

I'd be grateful if you would be able to promote the Summer Reading Challenge to your pupils. To assist, there are resources available on the Inspire website. These include; a poster, suggested text for newsletters and/or websites, web graphic and PowerPoint assembly presentation. You can also download a special school resource pack at: [www.readingagency.org.uk/schools](http://www.readingagency.org.uk/schools)

Yours sincerely,



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