

Summer Reading Measurements & Outcomes

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Conversation Overview

- National Guidelines on Summer Reading
- Why KY Summer “do” Summer Reading
- 3 National Examples of SRP Outcomes
- Feedback on KDLA Summer Reading Survey
- Training needs for summer reading

ALA Factsheet on Summer Reading

- Summer reading programs began in the 1890s as a way to encourage school children, particularly those in urban areas and not needed for farm work, to read during their summer vacation, use the library and develop the habit of reading. Libraries also now offer summer reading programs for adults, as well as children. Research conducted by the National Center for Educational Statistics found that in 1994, 95% of public libraries offered summer reading programs for children; there are not statistics for adult summer programs.

No National Standards

- The American Library Association does not set the themes for summer reading programs held at many public libraries nationwide. These may be set by the individual library or by the state library. Many individual or state libraries use the themes set by either the [Collaborative Summer Library Program \(CSLP\)](#), a grassroots consortium of states working together to provide summer reading program materials for children, or the [Illinois Reading Enrichment and Development \(iREAD\)](#) program, a coordinated, self-supporting effort to develop and provide resources and products to enable local library staff to promote reading, not just in Illinois, but also in a number of other states and over a dozen countries.

What is the goal of Summer Reading?

American Library Assoc.

- Encouragement that reading become a **lifelong habit**
- Reluctant readers can be drawn in by the **activities**
- Reading over the summer helps children keep their skills up
- Program can generate **interest in the library and books**
- Provide an opportunity for **family time.**

2015 KY Survey

- Encourage children to read for fun during the summer!
- To encourage **reading year around** not just during the school year.
- To prevent “**summer slide**”
- To **engage with our community.**
- To **reach new patrons.**
- The primary goal of summer reading is to **promote library usage** and literacy in the community.
- The main purpose of our summer programs is to **bring in the community** and promote literacy of all it's age variances. We want to promote a sense of togetherness, fun and learning.

4 Themes of Summer Reading

- 1) The impact of summer **learning loss** on disadvantaged youth
- 2) **Access** to books and time devoted to reading
- 3) The importance of successful reading **experiences**
- 4) The impact of innovative summer reading **programs**



Summer Reading Impact Study



- When libraries rewarded reading varied.
- The average length of a summer reading program in Virginia public libraries was eight weeks.
- Librarians indicated that the top three reasons the summer reading program is successful are:
 1. parent involvement
 2. variety of library activities
 3. community support of the program.

California's Statewide Summer Reading Outcomes



- The outcomes are designed to be:
 - specific enough to generate meaningful data
 - broad enough to be relevant in all of California's many public libraries
 - streamlined enough for libraries to implement even at times of severe budget cuts and staff shortages.
- **Outcome one: Children [Teens/Adults/Families] belong to a community of readers and library users**
- **Outcome two: Underserved community members participate in the summer reading program**

KDLA SRP Survey Feedback



What works? What doesn't?
What do you want us to know?
How do you want KDLA to use the data and results?

KDLA Training



Programming? Research?
Marketing? Strategic Planning?

Thank you!

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