

IQRA 2021 Summer Reading Program FAQs

1. Why is IQRA (summer reading program) is important?

Research has shown that school-aged kids experience loss of academic skills when school is not in session also known as Summer Slide and this is attributed largely to the lack of reading. Experts believe that reading in the summer months is critical for children to maintain literacy skills learned in the previous school year and grow in knowledge and critical thinking skills for the coming year.

2. How long is the IQRA Reading Program?

The IQRA Reading Program runs for 6 weeks and is open to all students from K-Grade 9.

Registration opens on Sunday June 20th, 2021. The program runs Sunday July 4th to Friday August 15th, 2021.

3. How do I register?

Parents and students can register for IQRA online at <https://iicanada.org/programs-services/learning-development/communications-and-public-speaking>. All registrations must be performed online.

4. How does the program work?

Students/parents will be using Microsoft Forms to log minutes read by the students. Parents/students can log daily or weekly. Students are recommended to read at least 20 minutes a day.

5. How will students be recognized this year?

At the end of the 6 weeks, the reader with the most minutes read during the 6 weeks from each region will be recognized. All students that have read 20 minutes per day, 5 days a week will receive a certificate.

6. Is there a list of books that students need to read?

Students are free to choose their own book and read whatever they would like. According to a Scholastic study, the top reason kids enjoy summer reading is when they have the power to choose what they read. All reading counts – short book, chapter book, magazine articles, comic books, fiction, non-fiction, and mobile books. We will include links to 2021 Summer Reading Book List recommendations on the iicanada website on Communication and Public Speaking page.

7. Can students read in languages other than English?

Definitely! Reading can take place in any language.

8. What if my child doesn't know how to read yet?

Pre-literacy and early-literacy skills are important to developing good reading and comprehension skills. Even if your child doesn't know how to read yet, listening to and handling books are just as important. Participants can have parents and/or siblings read to them. They can also read picture books.

9. How can students find books to read during the program?

Students may go to their local libraries, borrow from friend/family, or read online (ebooks).

10. How to encourage your children to read during summer?

- Create a reading nook/space in your house
- Download digital books from your local libraries
- Allow your children to pick their own books
- Start a series so there are multiple books to read
- Suggest a theme
- Build reading into your daily summer routine or schedule
- Read with a friend so they can discuss the book