



The theme for the Summer Reading Challenge 2026 is **Read to the Beat.**

This year, The Reading Agency are partnering with Universal Music Group UK to harness the universal appeal of music. Universal Music artists will be championing the joy of reading, sharing their own stories of how books have inspired their musical journeys and creative expression.

As a tentpole moment in the National Year of Reading, the 2026 Summer Reading Challenge will create new opportunities to engage children across our borough. *Reading for pleasure is the biggest indicator of a child's future success more so than family income or parental education.* Using music as an interest pathway helps us reach a wider audience, capture imaginations and encourage reading as a joyful social and cultural experience.

Children aged 4 to 11yrs can join for **free** in all Hillingdon Libraries from **Saturday 4 July**. When they join they will receive a sticker book, stickers and a special edition of Storytime magazine which features Summer Reading Challenge-themed content as well as a selection of stories for children to enjoy. Children who complete four visits by the closing date of Saturday 12 September will receive a Medal* and Certificate!

We've got some great free events running this Summer, visit your local library to find out more. Don't miss our free family days out:

The Imagination Station

> Botwell Green Library, Friday 31 July, 11am to 4pm

> The Great Barn, Manor Farm, Thursday 13 August, 10am to 3pm

- Join us for a day of creativity and imagination to celebrate this year's Summer Reading Challenge. A great day out for all the family.
- Get creative with Ruislip Artists and go green with the Recycling Team
- Get fit with Better Leisure
- Meet the Children's Centres and Heritage Teams
- Dr Bike will offer free basic bike repairs and information about cycling
- Relax at Storytime
- Suitable for children aged 4 to eleven years and their families. Free drop in event

**While stocks last*

