



*Jacqueline Wilson, author and supporter of the Summer Reading Challenge says:*

*"I feel the Summer Reading Challenge is extra important this year! How sensible to have a Silly theme. We've all had to deal with serious and scary issues, so it's time for a bit of fun. There are so many comical and crazy children's books to cheer us all up. Let's get reading and get happy!"*



The Reading Agency and Libraries Present



# SILLY SQUAD



Summer Reading Challenge 2020

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

**Bradford Libraries**  
**Summer Reading Challenge**  
**2020**  
**@ Home**  
**Summer Activities & Fun**  
**for ALL the Family**

**THE**  
**READING**  
**AGENCY**



City of  
**BRADFORD**  
METROPOLITAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

## Welcome to the Silly Squad Summer Reading Challenge 2020

This year the Summer Reading Challenge is a little bit different due to the Covid-19 pandemic, even though there are no activities taking place within Bradford Libraries we can ALL still enjoy books and have lots of reading FUN. Over the next few pages there are lots of ideas for activities you can do at home.

But before you start, have you collected your Silly Squad Summer Reading Challenge book bag? Ask for a pack when you Order & Collect books from one of our re-open libraries. A full list of libraries and updates can be found at [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries).

Your Silly Squad book bag has a Silly Squad folder to record the books you read and 3 sets of stickers. We will also send you, via your school, a Silly Squad Summer Reading Challenge 2020 certificate in recognition of all your summer reading.

As well as using your Silly Squad Summer Reading Challenge pack you can also have great fun with the national digital Summer Reading Challenge [www.sillysquad.org.uk](http://www.sillysquad.org.uk).

Here are some tips for reading fun and sharing stories at home:

- Pictures books can be enjoyed by all ages. Read them together and have fun chatting about the pictures. Then draw some of your own.



Illustrations © Laura Ellen Anderson 2020

- Read stories out loud - one chapter per day. The whole family can take turns to read and everyone will be hooked on finding out what happens next...
- Read out loud from your favourite book while your mum or dad or big brother listens with a cup of tea. You can use funny voices, make sound effects or show your acting skills.

- Build yourself a reading den at home or in the garden. Make a Do Not Disturb sign for when you are reading.



- Read anything and everything. Don't forget you can read comics, magazines, newspapers as well as graphic novels and joke books.

- Information books are fabulous too. You can use them to devise quizzes to share with your family, write your own stories about unusual animals or far away places and find out how to make things.



- Exchange book recommendations with friends and start a book blog.
- Or if you've had enough of online activity, why not write a review, post it to a friend and ask them to send one back. That's reading and writing all in one go.



- Audio books are great to listen to as a family as well. You can access E-Audio books via Borrow box at [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries).
- E-books are good too especially if you are going on a long journey . We have lots of new titles especially for the summer reading challenge. You can access E-books via Borrow box at <https://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries>
- And if you don't have a library ticket, don't worry, [join here online](#) today.
- Finally, don't worry about how you read. Reading gets better the more you try, so just enjoy looking at pictures and reading what you can. The secret is to choose books that you like and read a little every day.



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## Fun with Making Things Books

Making things yourself can be great fun and can help you learn new skills too. By making something you will - discover how things work, be inspired with new ideas and get active.

There are dozens of simple ways you can make things – junk modelling using old boxes; sewing using old clothes for patchwork or why not make a face mask; paper craft to make cards, or painting stones to decorate your garden or to give as gifts.

Activity – See if you can make an origami butterfly using the video below. You can make lots and use to decorate your room, or give to your friends.

[Here's a Five Minutes of Fun video on how to make a simple origami butterfly.](#)

If you'd like to know more about making things with paper here are some great titles to borrow from the library.

Origami by Sally Henry 736.982

Easy animal origami by Christopher L Harbo 736.982

To find other books, either about origami or other crafts, you can access the Bradford Libraries catalogue [HERE](#). Books can be reserved and collected via Order & Collect.

Find out how at [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries)

## Fun with Baking & Cooking Books

Baking and cooking can be great fun for all the family, not only do you learn new skills and give your brain a maths workout but also you get to eat your creations.

There are loads of simple recipes you can try and you can have lots of family fun together making biscuits, fairy cakes, bread, pizza, chicken nuggets, soup or curry and so much more.

Activity – See if you can make pizza today for tea. Hint: You'll need to start making dough in the morning. Ask a parent or carer first and check for ingredients.

[Here's a Five Minutes of Fun video on how to make a pizza \(or 2\) for tea.](#)

If you'd like to find books about baking or cooking here are some great titles to borrow from the library.

The big baking book: 100 healthier savoury + sweet recipes for big + little bakers Ella's Kitchen 641.71

The Walker book of children's cookery by Caroline Waldegrave 641

Gruffalo crumble and other recipes: 24 recipes from the deep dark wood by Julia Donaldson 641

To find other books for children on baking or cooking you can access the Bradford Libraries catalogue [HERE](#). Books can be reserved and collected via Order & Collect.

Find out how at [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries)

## Fun with Stories (& Books)

We all love stories! You can not only enjoy reading stories but listening to them; reading aloud and creating stories of your own. You can dress up like your favourite characters; act out scenes; create storyboards and new adventures. Stories are great for feeding your **IMAGINATION**.

Activity - Cut out 30 small paper squares. Next, look around one room in your house and write down one word on each square of things you can see e.g. table, dog, eggs. Then, divide the words into 10 small boxes. You can use stock cube boxes, egg boxes, sweet boxes etc. Now, close your eyes and take one word out of each box. Try to create a story that uses all the words. So, you could have a flying table that took the children and the dog to a land of giant eggs ...

[Here's a Five Minutes of Fun video on how to create a story of your own.](#)

If you'd like to know more about story-writing here are some books you can borrow from the library.

**How to write your best story ever!** by Christopher Edge 808.3

**How to write a great story** by Caroline Lawrence Ebook

To find other books on story writing you can access the Bradford Libraries catalogue [HERE](#).

Books can be reserved and collected via Order & Collect. Find out how at [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries)

## Fun with Poetry Books

Poetry gives us the chance to have fun with words, to explore our feelings and the world around us through language. Did you know that there are 10 types of poetry forms - which means different ways to write poetry to you and me. One of the most loved by children is the 3 line poem called the Haiku. The others are called **Free Verse**; **Sonnet**; **Blank Verse**; **Limerick**; **Tanka**; **Cinquain**; **Sestina**; **Villanelle** and **Acrostic**. Maybe you could find out what makes each of these different.

Activity - Write a poem about what you have done or felt during the time we have all had to StayAtHome. Enter Bradford Libraries Poetry Competition and you could be one of the winners and have your poem included in our published poetry book. Find details on how to enter [here](#).

[Here's a Five Minutes of Fun video with five poems to enjoy.](#)

If you'd like to know more about poetry here are some fantastic poetry books to borrow from the library.

**No breathing in class** by Michael Rosen 821

**Rappaman** by Donovan Christopher 821

**Dragon's: fire-breathing poems** by Nick Toczek 821

To find other books for children on poetry you can access the Bradford Libraries catalogue [HERE](#).

Books can be reserved and collected via Order & Collect. Find out how at [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries)

## Fun with Information Books

Information books are great for finding out about everything – how things work; facts about animals; events in history; inventors and inventions; countries & places we live in; nature and the environment; and great artists. In FACT, the list is too long for this page!

Activity - Take 2 minutes to think of one thing you'd like to know more about. What do you like? What are you curious about? Have you any pets?, Have you spotted birds or insects in your garden?

Now, find a book to research 5 facts and make your own video or booklet to share with friends and family.

Here's a Five Minutes of Fun video with five facts on keeping a pet rabbit. Hint: Working with your pet can be quite tricky but can also be lots of fun.

If you'd like to know more about pets here are some great titles to borrow from the library.

**Pets by Moira Butterfield 636.088**

**Exotic Pets by David Manning 636.088**

**Rabbits by Jinny Johnson 636.9322**

**Hamsters and Gerbils by Jinny Johnson 636.9356**

To find other books, either about pets or your own idea, you can access the Bradford Libraries catalogue [HERE](#).

Books can be reserved and collected via Order & Collect. Find out how at [www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries](http://www.bradford.gov.uk/libraries)

## Fun with Outdoor Activities & Books

There are lots of books about games you can play outside or ideas for things you can make to use in the garden or park. Or, why not learn how to grow flowers or vegetables. You don't need more than a plant pot, or old tub, soil and a packet of seeds.

Activity – Start collecting boxes, kitchen rolls, silver foil, yogurt pots and cartons, whatever you can find at home. You'll be surprised how much you can collect in a week. Once you think you have enough and it's a dry day, head outside (you don't need a large space). Now, you are going to build your own Junk Giant. You can design your giant on paper first if you want or see what evolves as you go along. Don't forget the sellotape.

Here's a Five Minutes of Fun video on another simple idea for outdoors – making a paper aeroplane. You can have flying competitions with your family and a lot of fun when your plane doesn't quite fly in the right direction. Like this one!

If you'd like to know more about things to do outdoors here are some great titles to borrow from the library.

**The big book of 100 outdoor activities by Laura Minter 649.5**

**Young gardener by Stefan Buczacki 635**

To find other books you can access the Bradford Libraries catalogue [HERE](#).

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