

Reading Quest

Suffolk Community Libraries has created a bespoke Suffolk based summer reading programme. Formally launched in 2024, this programme aims to encourage reading for pleasure and visiting the library over the six-week summer holiday. Children and families can sign up in their local library every July and begin their quest to discover, “Where will reading take you this summer?”

AT A GLANCE...

Who

Children and families across Suffolk

Where

All libraries in Suffolk

Positive impacts

- ✓ Increased engagement in reading for pleasure
- ✓ Supports family bonding
- ✓ Improved literacy and reading skills

FIND OUT MORE

[suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/
children-and-teens/reading-quest](https://suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/children-and-teens/reading-quest)

Or email our Children's Librarian:
erin.hamilton@suffolk.gov.uk

School Readiness

Starting school can be both exciting and daunting, for parent and child. School Readiness Bags are available to borrow from libraries and contain three books about starting school. Also included are information and tips for families to prepare their child for this big step. The books are specially chosen and can be read in the weeks prior to school starting. The aim is to allow children time to ask questions, give them the opportunity to express any emotions and to come together as a family, providing reassurance and confidence.

AT A GLANCE...

Who

Nursery, Playgroups

Where

Libraries across Suffolk

Positive impacts

- ✓ Boosts confidence in starting school
- ✓ Supports next stage of learning
- ✓ Supports parental engagement

FIND OUT MORE

[suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/
children-and-teens/get-ready-for-
school](https://suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/children-and-teens/get-ready-for-school)

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Teacher's Library Card

Suffolk Community Libraries offers opportunities for schools to purchase a Teacher's Library Card. This allows one class teacher to borrow up to 35 books for a longer loan period of 17 weeks. Useful for creating class reading corners, building research skills, or curating a specific unit of work. The cards cost £50 per card per year and schools can purchase up to eight cards. Books can be searched and reserved via our online system and librarians are often able to help recommend books for school staff.

For more information and to apply for a Teachers Library Card, call 0345 60 630 60 or email library.help@suffolk.gov.uk.

AT A GLANCE...

Who

Teachers

Where

All library locations

Positive impacts

- ✓ Promotes library services to school staff
- ✓ Access to a range of resources
- ✓ Supports curriculum topics
- ✓ Encourages use of library to students and families

FIND OUT MORE

You can browse our online catalogue here: suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/borrow/our-catalogue

Or email our Children's Librarian:
erin.hamilton@suffolk.gov.uk

Class Visits

We have 45 library branches across Suffolk with many libraries having the space and capacity to welcome classes in for a story and a chat about library services or the programmes and events we have planned. A tour of the library space is also available. Please contact the library manager of your local library to find out more. School staff need to be present and engaged for the full session. An initial conversation about the aims and outcomes of the library visit will be held prior to the class visit.

AT A GLANCE...

Who

EYFS, Key Stage 1,2,3,4

Where

Most library branches (check with manager at local library)

Positive impacts

- ✓ Promotes the core library offer to students and families
- ✓ Encourages choosing and reading books
- ✓ Engages the local community with the library

FIND OUT MORE

suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/libraries

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Forest of Stories

Forest of Stories is our reading programme for children aged 0-5. Families can collect their starter pack from any library in Suffolk and begin their daily reading adventure of reading daily with their children. Playgroups, nurseries and schools can get in touch to enquire about using this resource with larger groups of children. Reading rewards at milestones can be collected from any library. Families can read for 100 days in Phase One, and Phase Two leads families on a reading adventure for 300 days.

AT A GLANCE...

Who

Families with children aged 0-5, playgroups and nurseries

Where

Libraries across Suffolk

Positive impacts

- ✓ Promotes the benefits of daily reading
- ✓ Increases family bonding
- ✓ Builds parental confidence in reading daily

FIND OUT MORE

[suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/
children-and-teens/forest-of-stories](https://suffolkcommunitylibraries.co.uk/children-and-teens/forest-of-stories)

Or email our Children's Librarian:
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Power of Libraries Conference

Suffolk Community Libraries has previously hosted two successful conferences aimed at teachers across Suffolk. The purpose of the conferences was to engage with library offers, browse the range of books and activities available as well as network with colleagues from schools across Suffolk. Workshops and talks led by literacy experts, consultants and authors have been offered and well-received.

This is a free event and dates and locations are announced ahead of each event, normally scheduled for March.

AT A GLANCE...

Who

English or literacy leads, librarians and staff with a keen interest in reading for pleasure

Where

Held in different locations each year

Positive impacts

- ✓ Sharing ideas and approaches
- ✓ Networking with literacy professionals across Suffolk
- ✓ Encourages staff engagement with reading for pleasure
- ✓ Introduces new research-based thinking and ideas

FIND OUT MORE

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