

THE
READING
AGENCY

UNIVERSAL
UNIVERSAL MUSIC GROUP
UNITED KINGDOM

READ to the BEAT

Summer Reading Challenge
2026



Illustrations © Harry Woodgate 2026, Read to the Beat © The Reading Agency 2026

Find your reading rhythm with Slough Libraries
Take part from 30 June to 12 September 2026

www.slough.gov.uk
Slough
Borough Council

Find your
**READING
RHYTHM**
this summer with
Slough Libraries!



DRUM-ROLL!
This year's Summer
Reading Challenge is

READ
to the
BEAT

This exciting new theme encourages children to explore the link between stories and songs, showing how reading and music can spark imagination and creativity.

Children can complete the challenge by enjoying six library books over the summer, collecting free rewards along the

way to motivate their progression. Those that finish will be awarded a medal and certificate to mark hitting the high note and will get an exclusive invitation to a celebration event.

The Challenge presents reading as a fun and enjoyable activity and encourages children to become lifelong book lovers. It helps prevent the trend for reading skills to dip over the summer holidays and enhances and supports the school's reading initiatives. The Challenge is inclusive to children of all abilities as they can choose any library books that appeal to them to complete it. Children need to be a member of the library to take part. It's easy and free to join in person, or online at www.slough.gov.uk/libraries

The official challenge website hosts digital rewards, author videos, games and more for children to enjoy all summer: www.summerreadingchallenge.org.uk

They can also take part in an online challenge.

FREE ACTIVITY PROGRAMME

Play, create and find your pop star potential through our exciting, free programme of themed activities. Children can explore and perform music and rhythm in a variety of forms, developing confidence, expression and literacy skills in a fun and supportive way.



FROM OUR PARTNERS Slough Music Service

Bring your energy to a vibrant drumming workshop with Slough Music Service. Choose from samba or djembe drumming and discover the joy of playing these wonderful instruments.

Read to the Beat and find your voice through lyrics and rhythm at this creative session that combines words and music to make positive vibes.

Timings for these activities can be found at www.slough.gov.uk/events or sloughlibraries.eventbrite.com

Slough Music Service aims to inspire and empower, creating opportunity and enjoyment for all, enabling our community to develop, achieve and celebrate through music.

Visit www.sloughmusicservice.co.uk



The Curve

The stage is set...

Saturday 4 July, 2-3.30pm

Let your imagination take the spotlight and design a stage for your dream concert.

Drop-in for ages 4+.

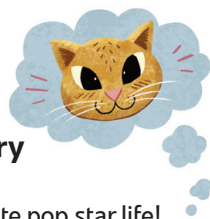
Sound Detectives

Friday 24 July, 11-11.30am

A quick quiz to test your listening skills. Can you match the sound to the instrument?

Recommended age 5+.

Please arrive at the start time.



Pop Star Factory

Monday 3 August

Create your ultimate pop star life!

Decorate a microphone, design your accessories, write a song and shake your tail feathers too! Plus, a chance to perform or show off your designs at the session finale.

2-3.30pm Decorate and design your microphone and accessories (age 4+).

3.30-4.15pm Lyric writing (age 6+).

4.15-4.30pm Dance moves (age 4+).

4.30-4.45pm Performance and catwalk - your chance to shine!

Bish Bash Band

Monday 10 August, 11am-12.30pm

Turn recycling into rhythm. We'll show you how to transform everyday objects into instruments you can bash, strum or shake.

Drop-in. Recommended age 4+.

LEGO®

Every Tuesday, 4-5pm

Our big boxes of bricks will inspire big ideas. Drop-in. Minimum age 5.

Community chess

Every Saturday 11.30am-12.30pm

All abilities welcome to come and enjoy a match. Please note: this session is attended by adults and children.



Britwell Library



Read to the Beat storytime

Thursday 16 July, 11-11.30am

Preschool children can shake, rattle and jingle along to stories and songs.

Pop Star Factory

Monday 17 August

Create your ultimate pop star life! Decorate a microphone, design your accessories, write a song and shake your tail feathers too! Plus, a chance to perform or show off your designs at the session finale.

2-3.30pm Decorate and design your microphone and accessories (age 4+).

3.30-4.15pm Lyric writing (age 6+).

4.15-4.30pm Dance moves (age 4+).

4.30-4.45pm Performance and catwalk – your chance to shine!



Cippenham Library

Pop Star Factory

Thursday 30 July

Create your ultimate pop star life!

Decorate a microphone, design your accessories, write a song and shake your tail feathers too! Plus, a chance to perform or show off your designs at the session finale.

2-3.30pm Decorate and design your microphone and accessories (age 4+).

3.30-4.15pm Lyric writing (age 6+).

4.15-4.30pm Dance moves (age 4+).

4.30-4.45pm Performance and catwalk - your chance to shine!

Playing together

Tuesday 11 August, 2-2.40pm

We'll be learning a simple tune on instruments. Please arrive at the start time. Recommended age 6+.

Bish Bash Band

Thursday 20 August, 11am-12.30pm

Turn recycling into rhythm. We'll show you how to transform everyday objects into instruments you can bash, strum or shake. Drop-in Recommended age 4+.

Pop-up Play

First and second Saturday of the month, 11am-12noon

Puzzles and games for an hour of family fun. Drop-in. All ages



Langley Library

Shake, rattle and jingle

Friday 17 July, 11am

A musical takeover of our usual story time slot, with simple percussion instruments to explore rhythm, rhyme and song. This session is suitable for preschool children. Please arrive at the start time. Please note: there will not be DUPLO® at this session.

Sound Detectives

Friday 24 July, 2-2.30pm

A quick quiz to test your listening skills. Can you match the sound to the instrument?

Recommended age 5+. Please arrive at the start time.

Pop Star Factory

Wednesday 12 August

Create your ultimate pop star life! Decorate a microphone, design your accessories, write a song and shake your tail feathers too! Plus, a chance to perform or show off your designs at the session finale.

2-3.30pm Decorate and design your microphone and accessories (age 4+).

3.30-4.15pm Lyric writing (age 6+).

4.15-4.30pm Dance moves (age 4+).

4.30-4.45pm Performance and catwalk - your chance to shine!

The stage is set...

Friday 28 August, 11am-12noon

Let your imagination take the spotlight and design a stage for your dream concert. Drop-in for ages 4+.



Continue your READING ADVENTURES at home

You can borrow up to 30 books with your library card, and your library membership also gives you access to thousands of eBooks and eAudiobooks with Borrowbox through your browser or app. You can browse titles on the digital bookshelves, so books are still within your reach, even when the libraries are closed. Ask staff for details.

Parents/carers should stay at the library and supervise their child during the activity. Please note the age guidance.



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