

Join the Silly Squad and the Let's Get Silly Ambassadors for an afternoon (ending with a bedtime story) of family fun!

The Summer Reading Challenge 2020 will launch on Friday 5 June and you can join the Silly Squad on a new adventure by setting your own personal reading challenge to complete this summer. Create a free profile to keep track of your books, reviews, and all of the special rewards you unlock along the way. You'll also find heaps of super silly activities, quizzes, videos, games and more to keep you entertained at home. This year's Challenge runs from June to September, so there is plenty of time to take part and get silly this summer.

Join us on Facebook on Friday 5 June to meet our super silly Ambassadors, who will be sharing their favourite silly stories, leading a draw-along to create your very own Silly Squad character, showing us their silliest dance moves, telling their most hilarious joke and sharing so much more silly fun with us all.

Once you have celebrated with the Silly Squad at the Launch Party head on over to sillysquad.org.uk to start your seriously silly summer reading Challenge!

Let's Get Silly Launch Party Schedule

- 4.00pm Sam & Mark (as seen on CBBC) launch the Summer Reading Challenge 2020 and introduce you to the Silly Squad telling you how you can sign up and start your seriously silly summer
- 4.10pm Comedian, author and presenter, David Baddiel, reads from his children's book *The Taylor TurboChaser*
- 4:15pm Author Gareth P Jones reads from his book *Dinosaur Detective: Catnapped!* and takes us on a real adventure
- 4:20pm Drawing with award-winning author and illustrator Rob Biddulph
- 4:30pm Poet and author Joseph Coehlo reads Funny Fish from his book Poems Aloud

- 4:35pm President of Libraries Connected, Carol Stump, reads a book from the official 2020 Summer Reading Challenge booklist *You Can't Call an Elephant in an Emergency* by Patricia Cleveland-Peck & David Tazzyman
- 4:40pm Crafts, colour and creativity with the original queen of colouring, Johanna Basford
- 4:45pm Authors Katie and Kevin Tsang read from their book *Sam Wu is Not Afraid of Zombies* including some super silly dress up!
- 4:50pm Let's Get Silly with longest-serving female BBC Blue Peter presenter and author Konnie Huq
- 4.55pm Presenter, author and adventurer, Ben Fogle reads an extract from his Mr Dog book series
- 5:05pm The British Library shares content from their Discovering Children's Books website where you can find a whole range of creative activities. In this video, Viviane Schwarz shows you fun ways of developing silly characters
- 5:10pm How to Build a Super Silly Reading Den with BBC's Katie Thistleton and Hacker T Dog
- 5:20pm Children's author Philip Ardagh reads from his book Bunnies on the Bus
- 5:25pm Arts Council England's Director of Libraries, Sue Williamson, reads her favourite poem
- 5:30pm Silly Squad draw-along with author and illustrator, Laura Ellen Anderson, who is the Summer Reading Challenge 2020's official illustrator!
- 5:40pm Award-winning comedian, actress and writer Samantha Baines reads from her novel *Harriet Versus*The Galaxy
- 5:45pm Konnie Huq gets super silly with the Silly Squad
- 5:50pm Shed School Magic with the nation's favourite teacher, Mr Bates
- 6pm The nation's favourite comedian and presenter Paul O'Grady will read an excerpt from his favourite children's book, *The Borrowers*
- 6:05pm Author Jennifer Killick reads from her book, *Alex Sparrow and the Zumbie Apocalypse* and shows us how to do a very silly dance join in!
- 6:15pm Children's author (and game designer!) Gabrielle Kent reads from her book, Knights and Bikes
- 6:25pm Actor Owen Teale (Game of Thrones) reads from his favourite book, *A Child's Christmas in Wales* by Welsh poet Dylan Thomas.
- 6:30pm Jokes with our Ambassadors! Including Quick Reads 2020 author Milly Johnson, Samantha Baines, and Konnie Huq

6:35pm - Actor and writer Shobna Gulati (Dinner Ladies, Coronation Street) will read *Tiny Ant* from the Official Book Collection

6.40pm - Author and illustrator Laura Dockrill shares her favourite poems including her own poem *My Mum's Growing Down* as well as one by Benjamin Zephaniah from *Talking Turkeys* and a Carol Ann Duffy poem!

6.45pm - It's time to hear the official 'Let's Get Silly!' theme song! Written and performed by Harry Baker and Chris Read

6:50pm - Closing the Launch Party with a bedtime story, actor Charlie Condou (Holby City, Coronation Street) reads *This is Gus* from the official Summer Reading Challenge book collection

7pm - End

Head to www.sillysquad.org.uk to sign up to the Challenge!- and keep an eye on the Summer Reading Challenge Facebook page throughout the summer to catch even more fantastic videos from our wonderful ambassadors and book collection authors!