

# 2024 Premier's reading challenge

## Early childhood centre information kit



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## ABOUT THE CHALLENGE

The Premier's Reading Challenge (PRC) is an annual state-wide initiative for state and non-state schools and home-educated students up to Year 9, as well as children attending early childhood centres. Since the program's inception in 2006, more than 20 million books have been read, and in 2023, 110,000 school, early childhood and individual readers participated in the challenge reading more than 1.5 million books throughout the PRC reading period.

Centres can take part in the challenge by tallying the total number of experiences children have with books and other texts or other literacy activities over a one-week period during the early childhood participation period between 12 – 23 August 2024. Parents/guardians can also get involved by reading books at home and recording these on the [early childhood reader record form](#).

The challenge is not a competition however is a way to nurture children's love of reading. Research shows very young children involved in daily activities, such as reading together, storytelling, singing and sharing rhymes will have better vocabulary, language and cognitive skills by the time they start school.

Centres and children who participate in the challenge will receive a Certificate of Achievement. In order to receive the certificate, centres must have read at least one book.

### Benefits of literacy activities

Literacy skills are vital to ensuring children have the best chance to succeed in their schooling and in life. The foundations of literacy skills are built in early childhood. The PRC is an opportunity for children to experience a range of different texts that extend their knowledge of the world around them and stimulate their imagination and curiosity. When adults read to children they become familiar with the patterns and rhythm of language, they learn to connect printed words with the story, learn new words and ways of expressing their ideas.

### Key dates

Date	Activity
22 April 2024	Registration opens for early childhood centres via the PRC online database
19 July 2024	Register to participate via the PRC database by this date to receive a printed wall chart to keep track of your centre's progress during the participation period
12 – 23 August 2024	Early childhood centre participation period
26 August – 6 September 2024	Centre achievements entered into the PRC database
6 September 2024	All reading data must be finalised in the database
Early October 2024	Certificates of Achievement mailed to early childhood centres
October 2024	PRC Celebration Weeks

## **Book suggestions**

While there is no compulsory reading list for the challenge, book lists have been developed by teacher librarians in conjunction with the Department of Education's (DoE) Curriculum branch, to help children, teachers, parents and guardians select age appropriate material. The book lists are available on the [PRC website](#) and have been divided into year level groups.

The following activities can be counted towards the challenge:

- experiencing a book or text including classroom or at home activities such as shared reading, listening and reading along with a book
- story telling
- being read to.

The following literature forms can be counted towards the challenge:

- printed books
- e-books, virtual books and digital publications
- felt-board stories and stories with puppets
- audio and braille books
- newspapers, magazines and recipe books
- literature in additional languages to English.

## **Certificates and prizes**

Centres who complete the challenge in the database will receive a centre-wide Certificate of Achievement for their involvement.

If children's names are entered into the database (not compulsory), individual Certificates of Achievement will be mailed to early childhood centres in October in time to be presented to children during the PRC Celebration Weeks.

Centres who complete the challenge will be in the running to share in book vouchers up for grabs.

## **Celebration weeks**

Centres are encouraged to celebrate children's literacy activities and experiences with texts by holding presentation ceremonies during the PRC Celebration Weeks.

Centres are encouraged to invite their local Member of Parliament to participate in the presentation of certificates to children.

## HOW TO PARTICIPATE

For your centre to participate in the challenge please follow the steps below.

<p><b>Step 1: Select a PRC coordinator</b> The PRC coordinator is responsible for overseeing the centre's participation in the challenge, registering the centre and managing the data in the PRC database.</p>	April – July 2024
<p><b>Step 2: Register your centre</b> The PRC coordinator registers the centre to participate via the <a href="#">PRC database</a>. Centres who register by <b>Friday 19 July 2024</b> will receive a wall chart to keep track of their progress during the participation period.</p>	
<p><b>Step 3: Select your participation week</b> Centres should select one week to participate in the challenge between 12 – 23 August 2024.</p>	August 2024
<p><b>Step 4: Download the wall chart</b> Get ready to record books experienced. If you registered by 19 July, you would have received a printed wall chart in the mail. They are also available to download via our <a href="#">website</a>. As is an early childhood record form for children and parents/carers reading at home to keep track of their progress.</p>	
<p><b>Step 5: Participation period</b> Centres to tally the total number of experiences with texts or literacy activities over a one week (7 day) period.</p>	12 – 23 August 2024
<p><b>Step 6: Submit achievements and order certificates</b> Coordinator to enter the total number of experiences with texts and literacy activities into the PRC database, and order Certificates of Achievement to complete the challenge. Database closes 6 September.</p>	6 September 2024
<p><b>Step 7: Plan centre reading celebrations</b> Centres are encouraged to celebrate the children's experiences with texts and literacy activities by holding presentation ceremonies during the PRC Celebration Weeks in October.</p>	September – October 2024
<p><b>Step 8: Celebrate reading achievements</b> Certificates of Achievement will be mailed to centres in October in time to be presented to children during PRC Celebration Weeks.</p>	October 2024

## TIPS FOR PARTICIPATION

### Encouraging children to engage with a range of texts

Some ideas for parents, guardians, teachers, educators, aides, siblings, buddies and classmates to consider:

- make time to read aloud with children every day
- ensure reading time is fun and exciting
- engage children in play with words and sounds
- suggest books children may enjoy
- retell stories that you have enjoyed
- have children talk about the pictures – what do they think the story will be about, what do they see characters doing that may give clues about the story?
- use expression to convey the drama or humour in the story
- at key points in a story ask children what they think will happen next?
- for younger children, let them hold the book and turn the pages.

### Encouraging children to participate in the challenge

Some ideas to consider for the early childhood participation period include:

- create a book display of favourite books or authors
- read books from the same author or with the same characters
- organise a visit to your local library
- encourage parent/guardian participation at library sessions and borrow books their children will enjoy
- organise a children book swap party – children bring a book and select a book from the swap table.

### Queensland public libraries

With over 300 public libraries in Queensland, locate a [library](#) near you and visit their website for online resources.

[First 5 Forever](#) is a universal family literacy program, connecting families with public libraries and community agencies, and aims to support stronger language and literacy environments for young children from 0–5 years and their families.

Centres are encouraged to contact their local library and discuss how to improve parent and guardian links to age appropriate resources and programs.

## HOW TO USE THE DATABASE

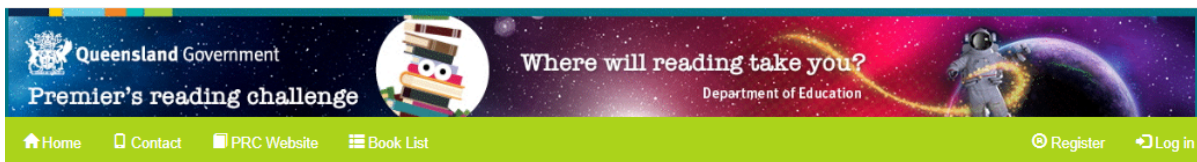
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## HOW TO REGISTER

Follow the steps below to register your centre to participate in this year’s challenge.

### Step 1: Registration

1. Open the PRC database – <http://prc.median.com.au>
2. Click the ‘Register’ button on the PRC database home page.



#### 2024 Premier's Reading Challenge

The Premier's Reading Challenge is an annual statewide initiative for state and non-state schools and home-educated students up to Year 9, and children enrolled in an early childhood centre or program.

The challenge is not a competition but aims to improve literacy and encourage children to read widely for pleasure and learning. Children and students can participate in the challenge within their school, early childhood centre or as individual readers (home-educated students or students whose schools are not participating in the program).

For Prep — Year 9 students to successfully complete the challenge they must read or experience an allocated number of books based upon their year level during the reading period.

Early childhood centres can participate in an abridged version of the challenge by tallying the total number of book experiences or literary activities over a one week period.

Children and students who complete the challenge will have their efforts recognised through the receipt of a Certificate of Achievement signed by the Premier of Queensland.

For further information visit the Premier's Reading Challenge [website](#).

#### Key dates

22 April 2024	PRC launch date
7 May 2024	Reading period commences for Prep to Year 9 students
12 - 23 August 2024	Early childhood participation period
17 - 23 August 2024	CBCA Children's Book Week
23 August 2024	Reading period finishes for Prep to Year 9 students. Student reading record forms submitted to schools
6 September 2024	All reading data must be finalised in the database and Certificate of Participation available for download
October 2024	Certificates of Achievement issued
4 - 15 November 2024	Premier's Reading Challenge celebration weeks



3. Click on the ‘Early childhood centre’ button. A centre registration is for early childhood centres whose participation is managed by a PRC coordinator on behalf of a centre.

Children and students can participate in the challenge within their school, early childhood centre or as an individual reader (home-educated students or students whose schools are not participating in the program). Please select the correct registration type below.

**School**

A school registration is for Prep – Year 9 students whose participation is managed by a Premier's Reading Challenge school coordinator on behalf of a school.

The [school information kit](#) provides instructions on how to register for the challenge.

**Individual reader**

An individual reader is a Prep – Year 9 student who is home-educated or whose school is not participating in the Premier's Reading Challenge. Before registering as an individual reader, students attending a Queensland school should ensure that their school is not participating in the challenge.

The [individual reader information kit](#) provides instructions for parents/guardians on how to register for the challenge.

**Early childhood centre**

A childhood centre registration is for early childhood centres whose participation is managed by a Premier's Reading Challenge coordinator on behalf of a centre.

The [early childhood centre information kit](#) provides instructions on how to register for the challenge.

- Enter your contact and centre details and click the 'Register' button.  
 Note: you will get a message if your centre has already registered. As there is only one registration per centre, please either contact your centre administration or the PRC Program Manager to find the centre's PRC coordinator.

- You will receive an email to confirm your registration from 'Premier's Reading Challenge <PRC@median.com.au>'. The email will include your login details for the PRC database. Please keep these details as you will need to log back into the database throughout the challenge.
- After you click the 'Register' button you will be taken to your 'Centre' overview screen.
- If you coordinate the PRC in multiple centres you can manage all your records under one login. To add an additional centre, select the centre from the drop down menu and select 'Add centre' button in the bottom left hand corner.

Centre name (prints on certificate)	Total rooms	Room list	Completed date	Cancel challenge	Cancelled date	
1 2 3 4 Kids	0	Room list	No date available	Cancel	No date available	Edit Delete

121 Childcare - Rainforest Centre

+ Add centre

- 8. To make edits to your centre name, for example if you need to shorten the name of your centre for the purposes of the certificate, select 'Edit' in the right hand side column of the 'Centre overview' screen. Once the changes are made select 'save'.

Centre overview  Show all on one page

Centre name (prints on certificate)	Total rooms	Room list	Completed date	Cancel challenge	Cancelled date	
1 2 3 4 Kids	0	<a href="#">Room list</a>	No date available	<span style="color: red;">✘</span> Cancel	No date available	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>

121 Childcare - Rainforest Centre ▼

[+ Add centre](#)



## Step 2: Entering a room

1. To add a room to your centre, click on the 'Room list' link in the third column of the centre overview.

Queensland Government Premier's reading challenge Department of Education

Home Contact PRC Website Centre overview View room list Hello, Jane Doet

Centre overview  Show all on one page

Centre name (prints on certificate)	Total rooms	Room list	Completed date	Cancel challenge	Cancelled date	
1 2 3 4 Kids	0	<a href="#">Room list</a>	No date available	✗ Cancel	No date available	<input type="button" value="Edit"/> <input type="button" value="Delete"/>

121 Childcare - Rainforest Centre

2. To enter the name of a room click on the 'Add room' button on the top right hand corner of the page.

Queensland Government Premier's reading challenge Department of Education

Home Contact PRC Website Centre overview View room list Hello, Jane Doet

1 2 3 4 Kids - Room List  Show all on one page

Room name	Books experienced	No. of children	Child list
No record found			

3. Enter the room name and how many children plan to participate then press 'Save'. You can register your whole centre as one room if you do not wish to create multiple rooms.

Early Childhood Centre - Room List  Show all on one page

Room name	Books experienced	No. of children	No. of children Completed	
<input type="text"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text" value="0"/>	<input type="text"/>	<input type="button" value="Save"/> <input type="button" value="Cancel"/>

### Step 3: Completing the challenge

At the conclusion of the participation period, the total number of book experiences and literacy activities experienced by children at your centre over a one week (7 day) period needs to be totalled and entered into the PRC database by **Friday 6 September 2024**.

1. To enter the number of books read click the 'Edit' button next to each room name on the participant details screen and update. Add total children who participated and press 'Save'.

Early Childhood Centre - Room List

Show all on one page
 + Add room
Centre overview

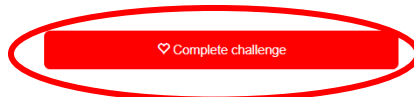
Room name	Books experienced	No. of children	No. of children Completed	
Room1	14	15	15	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Save</div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Cancel</div>

2. Once this is done, you can complete the challenge by clicking on the 'Complete challenge' button. This is a multi-step process.

Early Childhood Centre - Room List

Show all on one page
 + Add room
Centre overview

Room name	Books experienced	No. of children	No. of children Completed	
Room1	14	15	15	<div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Edit</div> <div style="border: 1px solid blue; border-radius: 5px; padding: 2px; display: inline-block;">Delete</div>



3. Order certificates

New this year is the option to select from blank or generic PRC certificates.

Option 1: generic certificates of achievement, where they are all the same and cannot be customised.

Option 2: blank certificates which means you can print children's names over the certificate, or you can handwrite them on.

Click 'Order certificates' for a visual.

To complete the Premier's Reading Challenge please follow the steps below:

#### 1. Order Certificates

You have 2 options when ordering certificates.

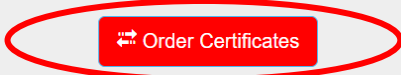
Option 1: generic certificates of achievement, where they are all the same and cannot be customised.

Option 2: blank certificates which means you can print student names over the certificate, or you can hand write them on.

Click 'Order certificates' for a visual.

#### 2. Complete challenge

Once you have ordered your school's certificates, you must finalise your school's participation by clicking the 'Complete challenge' button below.



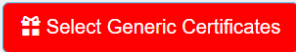
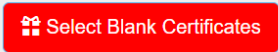
#### 4. Select generic or blank certificates

This year there are different certificates for primary and secondary school students. The database will generate the number of certificates based on data entered and year level.

To see examples of the certificates, click on the blue hyperlinks.

By clicking a red button, you are selecting that certificate type.


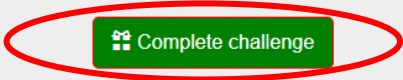
Please select 1 certificate option below. This year there are different certificates for primary and secondary school students. The database will generate the number of certificates based on data entered and year level.

<p><b>1. Generic Certificates</b></p> <p>The generic certificates will have the text "Congratulations on completing the 2024 Premier's reading challenge!" already written on it.</p> <p>Previews of this are below:</p> <p><a href="#">Generic Cert Preview</a></p> <p></p>	<p><b>2. Blank Certificates</b></p> <p>The blank certificates have nothing written on them, which means you can print student names over them, or handwrite them on.</p> <p>Previews of this are below:</p> <p><a href="#">Blank Cert Preview</a></p> <p></p>
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#### 5. Submit

Once you have selected the certificate type, the system will tell you which you have selected. You can then click the green 'Complete challenge' button.

To complete the Premier's Reading Challenge please follow the steps below:

<p><b>1. Order Certificates</b></p> <p>You have 2 options when ordering certificates.</p> <p>Option 1: generic certificates of achievement, where they are all the same and cannot be customised.</p> <p>Option 2: blank certificates which means you can print student names over the certificate, or you can handwrite them on.</p> <p>Click 'Order certificates' for a visual.</p> <p>You have selected generic certificates. If this is incorrect, please press the Order Certificates button again and select the correct certificate type.</p> <p></p>	<p><b>2. Complete challenge</b></p> <p>Once you have ordered your centre's certificates, you must finalise your school's participation by clicking the 'Complete challenge' button below.</p> <p></p>
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## 6. Confirm postal address

Check that your postal details are correct (this is where the certificates will be sent) and click on 'Confirm details and submit'. If you wish to change the postal address, go to the 'My Account' page which can be found in the drop down box under 'Hello, *name*' button in the top right hand corner of the screen.

To complete the Premier's Reading Challenge please follow the steps below:

**1. Order Certificates**

You have 2 options when ordering certificates.

Option 1: generic certificates of achievement, where they are all the same and cannot be customised.

Option 2: blank certificates which means you can print student names over the certificate, or you can handwrite them on.

Click 'Order certificates' for a visual.

You have selected generic certificates. If this is incorrect, please press the Order Certificates button again and select the correct certificate type.

[Order Certificates](#)

**2. Complete challenge**

Once you have ordered your centre's certificates, you must finalise your school's participation by clicking the 'Complete challenge' button below.

[Complete challenge](#)

Please confirm your postal address details are correct. If you wish to change them, go to the 'My Account' page.

Early Childhood Centre  
142 Ashmore Rd  
BENOWA QLD 4127

[Confirm details and submit](#)

The text below will appear and you will also receive a confirmation email stating you have completed the challenge.

**Congratulations!** You have successfully completed the 2024 Premier's Reading Challenge.

Early childhood centres are encouraged to celebrate children's reading achievements by presenting certificates during the PRC Celebration Weeks from 4 – 15 November 2024.

All centres who participated in the challenge will be mailed a Certificate of Achievement in September.

If you have not received your certificates by 14 October 2024, please contact the program manager via email at [reading.challenge@qed.qld.gov.au](mailto:reading.challenge@qed.qld.gov.au). Missing certificates will not be reprinted or resent out after this date.

For further information please visit the Premier's Reading Challenge [website](#).

**Important:** make sure to look out for your confirmation email. If you do not receive one, check your junk mail. If you're still unable to locate it, it is likely you have not completed the process. Log back in and follow the 'complete challenge' prompts.

## 7. Printing certificates

The confirmation email will provide instructions on how to mail merge your certificates if you've chosen blanks.

## How to 'undo completion' – only available prior to database closing

Once you have completed your record in the database and received a confirmation email, we will print certificates as per the database. If you need to add or update details, you can do so as long as it is before the database deadline. Login and click on the blue 'undo completion' button. It will appear where the 'complete challenge' button was. You can then update what you need to.

*Make sure to go through the completion process again when you're finished. If your account is not complete by the due date, certificates will not be sent.*

The screenshot shows the Premier's reading challenge interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the Queensland Government logo, the text 'Premier's reading challenge', and the Department of Education logo. Below the header is a green navigation bar with links for Home, Contact, PRC Website, Centre overview, and View room list. The main content area is titled '1 2 3 4 Kids - Room List'. There is a checkbox for 'Show all on one page', a '+ Add room' button, and a 'Centre overview' button. A table lists room details:

Room name	Books experienced	No. of children	Child list	
Room 1	20	5	★ Children	<a href="#">Edit</a> <a href="#">Delete</a>

Below the table, a blue button labeled 'Undo completion' is circled in red.

## How to change your details or password

If you need to change your details or password click the 'Hello, *name*' button in the top right hand corner of the screen, and select 'My Account'.

The screenshot shows the Premier's reading challenge interface. At the top, there is a blue header with the Queensland Government logo, the text 'Premier's reading challenge', and the Department of Education logo. Below the header is a green navigation bar with links for Home, Contact, PRC Website, School overview, and View class list. The main content area is titled 'Hello, Jane Doe!'. A dropdown menu is open, showing options for 'My Account' and 'Log off'. The 'My Account' option is circled in red.

Change your password by selecting 'Change' at the bottom of the page.

Or update your details and select 'Save'.

## Where to find books and online resources

With more than 300 libraries in Queensland, [locate a library near you](#) and visit their website for opening hours and available resources.

- [Australian Publishers Association](#)
- [Books Create Australia](#)
- [BorrowBox](#)
- [Brisbane City Council Library Services](#)
- [Children and Young People with Disability Australia](#)
- [Dandiiri Library](#)
- [learning@home](#)
- [First 5 Forever](#)
- [National Library of Australia](#)
- [Project Gutenberg](#)
- [Queensland State Schools eBooks Digital Library \(for state schools only, log in required\)](#)
- [Reading and Writing Disorders](#)
- [State Library of Queensland](#)
- [Story Box Library](#)
- [The Children's Book Council of Australia](#)
- [Tumble Book Library](#)
- [Vision Australia Library – become a member for free.](#)

For an alternate format library provided by the department's Queensland Statewide Vision Impairment Services, email [3140\\_AFL@eq.edu.au](mailto:3140_AFL@eq.edu.au) for more information.

## Our new book list portal

Our book lists are now more user friendly! Search by themes or authors to help select books your students/children will love. The book lists offer suggestions only, participants can read whatever interests them or have available.

[Take a look!](#)

### Book suggestions from other state PRC programs

New South Wales: <https://online.det.nsw.edu.au/prc/booklist/home.html>

South Australia: <https://premiersreadingchallenge.sa.edu.au/book-list/>

Victoria: <https://vprc.eduweb.vic.gov.au/searchbooklist>

### FURTHER INFORMATION

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