



# HAPPY CAMPER

Take a Reading Adventure

## Welcome to the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge!

### Dear Parent or Caregiver,

Did you know that when kids read over the summer they are more likely to leap ahead when they return to school? This is often called the "summer leap," and our school has made it a priority to keep our students' skills sharp by encouraging them to read all summer long.

Our class has signed up to participate in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge, a free online reading program that invites children to log their reading minutes all summer. The goal is for the students in our school to read the most minutes possible in an effort to receive recognition and a mention in the *2018 Scholastic Book of World Records*. With your help, we can do it!

I'm excited to share that the theme of this year's program is "Happy Camper: Take a Reading Adventure!" As kids log their reading minutes throughout the 18 weeks of summer, they will unlock a book featuring fun activities including games, videos, quizzes and more. Plus, throughout the summer, kids will earn digital rewards and learn about great new books to read. On the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge site, families will have access to free books lists across all ages in both English and Spanish.

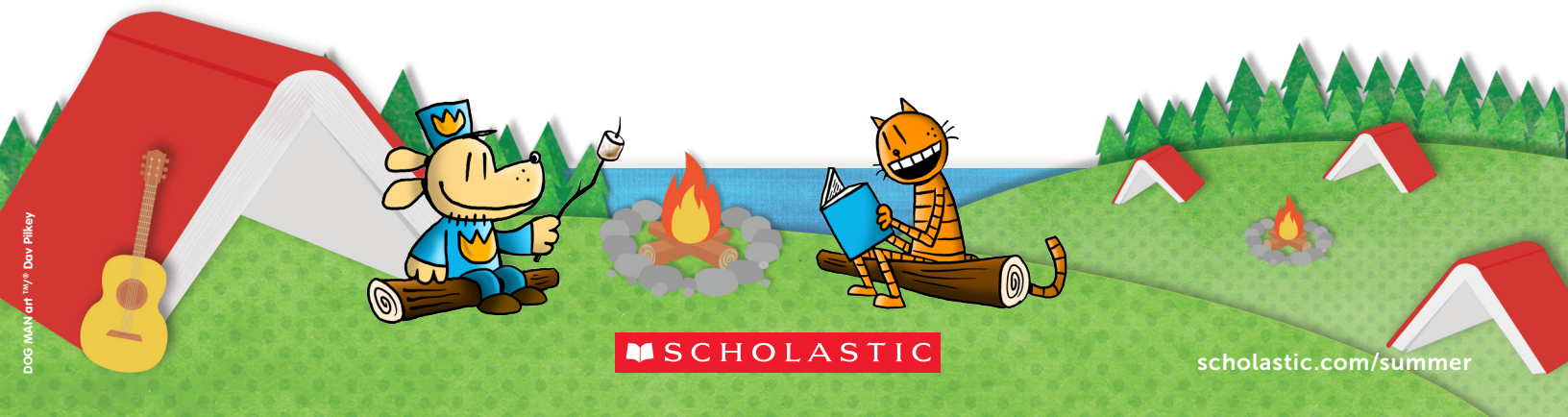
The fun begins on May 8, 2017, and ends on September 8, 2017. I invite you to learn more about the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge at [scholastic.com/summer](http://scholastic.com/summer).

### Have a wonderful summer!

If your child forgot his or her summer reading username, please contact me directly or contact Scholastic at 1-800-SCHOLASTIC or email [summerchallengehelp@scholastic.com](mailto:summerchallengehelp@scholastic.com).

For more articles, tips, and free resources for parents, visit [scholastic.com/parents](http://scholastic.com/parents).

For more games, book recommendations, videos and free activities for kids, visit [scholastic.com/kids](http://scholastic.com/kids).





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### Reminder: Keep Kids Reading All Summer Long

Dear Parent or Caregiver,

I hope you are enjoying your summer with your family and that you are keeping reading a top priority. The Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge is underway, and our school is doing well so far! This is a friendly reminder to keep encouraging your child to read and log his or her minutes at [www.scholastic.com/summer](http://www.scholastic.com/summer). If our school logs the most minutes of any participating school, we will be recognized as "Best in State" and will be featured in the 2018 *Scholastic Book of World Records*!

Here are a few ideas to help you and your child keep the reading momentum going all summer long:

➤ **Harness the power of choice!**

Kids are more likely to finish a book they pick out themselves, so visit a library, bookstore or your own bookshelves, and let your child choose a book to read. Research shows 89% of kids ages 6-17 agree their favorite books are the ones that they have picked out themselves.\*

➤ **Remember, kids need help finding books they like.**

A recent study shows parents underestimate the degree children have trouble finding books they like. Only 29% of parents say their children had trouble finding books versus 41% of kids ages 6-17 saying "I have trouble finding books I like."\* Take the time to get to know their interests and ask their teachers or the local librarian for some titles that are age-appropriate and guaranteed to excite even the most reluctant reader.

➤ **Keep reading together – kids love it!**

Research shows 87% of kids ages 6-11 say they love(d) being read aloud to at home.\* Set a goal and see how many books you can read together in one summer. Be a reading role model and "take a reading adventure" together every day with a favorite picture book, comic book or even newspaper article. Everything count.

➤ **Need inspiration? Find new ways to read all summer long.**

There are many places to help children discover new books. The most popular ways parents with kids ages 6-11 can help get their kids reading over the summer include:

- taking kids to the library (66%),
- picking books from the school book club or book fair (60%)
- taking books on trips and vacations (56%)\*

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\*Source: Kids & Family Reading Report, 6<sup>th</sup> Edition (2016)





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### We're Halfway There!

#### Dear Parent or Caregiver,

We are halfway through the summer, and you are doing a terrific job motivating your child to read! This is a friendly reminder to keep encouraging your child to read every single day, even if it's only for a few minutes. There are so many other summertime distractions that can often take the place of reading, but it's important to stick with a reading routine.

For every minute your child reads, he or she is strengthening his or her reading skills. Our school is committed to making sure all of our students come back to school prepared, and reading every day can truly make a difference.

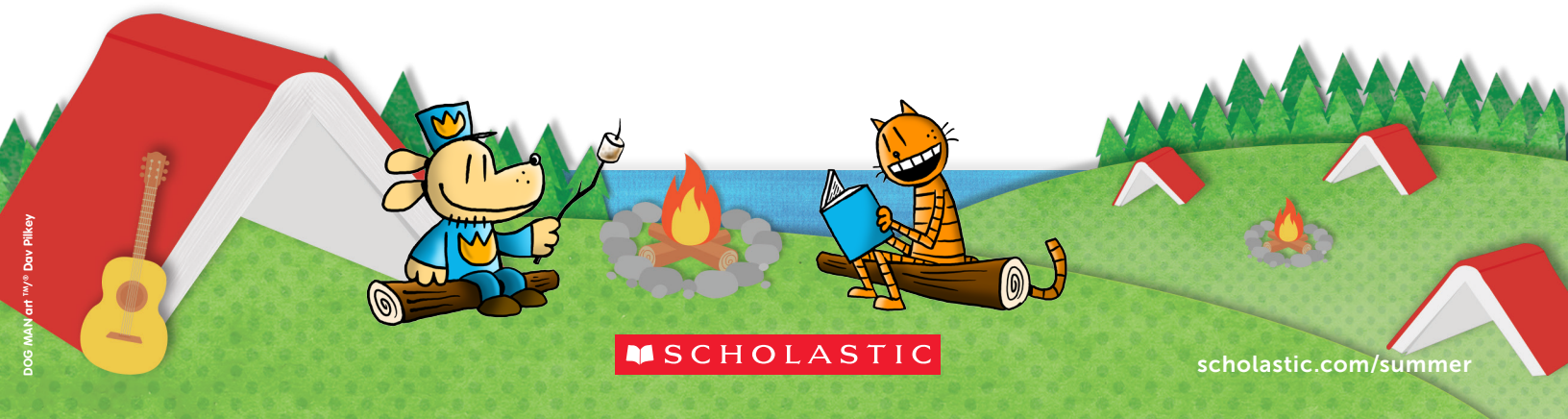
Looking for new books for your kids to read? Check out the Scholastic age-appropriate summer reading lists at [www.scholastic.com/summer](http://www.scholastic.com/summer).

#### Have a great rest of the summer!

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### Get Ready For Back to School

#### Dear Parent or Caregiver,

I hope you had a wonderful summer, and that you and your child had fun participating in the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge. I want to congratulate all the families from our class for their commitment to reading over the course of the past 18 weeks. We should all feel extremely proud of our class participation.

If you haven't already done so, please have your child print out his or her minutes from their user profile, which can be found on the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge website at [www.scholastic.com/summer](http://www.scholastic.com/summer). Please have them bring it to school so we celebrate their summer reading success!

Be sure to check back on the Scholastic Summer Reading Challenge website on September 27, 2017 for the list of "Best in State" schools, as well as recognition for the top participating libraries and community partners!

Thank you for being a great reading role model for your child this summer. The time and effort you put in will make for a wonderful school year ahead.

#### Thanks again!

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