

Read Around the World



READ IN has been bringing people together for **31 years** to instill the love of reading in all Edmontonians. Let's go all in for reading by sharing our favourite books and stories with our friends and family. Travel to faraway places, explore new worlds, or learn about your own community through a good book.

No matter your approach, we are all readers!

READ IN Website: www.readin.ca

Facebook: @READINWeekyeg

Twitter: @ReadInWeek

READ IN PARTNERS

Centre for Family Literacy | famlit.ca

Concordia University of Edmonton | concordia.ab.ca

Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord | centrenord.ab.ca

Edmonton Catholic School District | ecsd.net

Edmonton Public Library | epl.ca

Edmonton Public Schools | epsb.ca

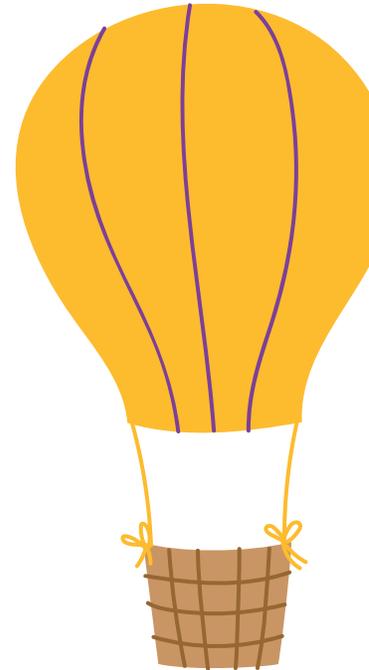
NorQuest College | norquest.ca



The READ IN 2020 Toolkit provides ideas, information and inspiration for planning your own READ IN events.

READ IN Week 2020 is October 5-9

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READ IN FACT SHEET

Theme for 2020: Read Around the World

Sometimes the world feels like a very large place, but with globalization and new technology, it can feel very small too! No matter where you are in the world and where you're reading from, everybody has a story to share. This year's READ IN Week, let's celebrate kids' voices from around the world. Whether we're sharing stories in person or virtually, whether we're near or far, whether we're physically together or physically distant, we are all connected.

What is READ IN?

The READ IN initiative began when UNESCO declared 1990 The Year of Literacy. Rallied by Esther Starkman, representatives from Edmonton Catholic Schools, Edmonton Public Schools and NorQuest joined forces to raise awareness of the importance of literacy. Various partners have been involved in READ IN throughout the years, including the Conseil scolaire Centre-Nord, post-secondary institutions, media outlets, Edmonton Public Library and the City of Edmonton. READ IN partners seek to share their love of reading with all members of our community.

When is READ IN Week? READ IN Week is October 5 – 9, 2020

Although literacy and learning events occur throughout the year, READ IN Week is a special time for our city to celebrate reading. READ IN emphasizes sharing your love of reading with others, introducing friends and family to your favourite books and treating reading as a community event rather than just a solitary pursuit. Read alouds and storytimes are the bread and butter of READ IN Week, whether taking place in a school, a library, a community agency, or at home.

How do I get involved?

- Initiate a READ IN activity at your local library, school, workplace or community organization. Suggested contacts for booking guest readers are located on **page 8**.
- Be a guest reader in a local classroom. Get connected with a school by contacting one of the school boards. Let them know if you are willing to read in a language other than English.

SCHOOL BOARD CONTACTS

Dana Prefontaine, Edmonton Catholic Schools
780-441-6075 | dana.prefontaine@ecsd.net

READ IN Team, Edmonton Public Schools
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CREATING A READ IN ENVIRONMENT

How can your organization participate in READ IN this year? You may choose to have events only during READ IN Week or use the week to launch year-IN initiatives. Creating a physical or virtual space for reading to take place is a great way to ensure that it happens frequently!

Physical Space

Although most schools and organizations are being cautious about inviting guests physically into their space, there may still be opportunities for a few in-person events! Here are some tried and true tips from years past:

- **Set Décor:** Set aside a special area for your events. Whether this is in a classroom or a library, you can jazz it up by involving students to create and decorate the space. Hang up printouts of your favourite book covers or print out the READ IN poster (available at readin.ca). Designate a chair for your guest reader to use, making sure it's at a safe distance from the audience, and prepare comfortable seating for the audience.
- **Welcome Visitors:** Your guest reader may come prepared with their own book, but it's always a good idea to have a few books for them to choose from just in case! See **page 9** for some READ IN 2020 suggested titles. Set aside some time at the start of the storytime for your guest reader to introduce themselves and talk about what they do. You can also have students prepare a couple of questions for the guest reader such as "Do you have a favourite book?" or "How do you use reading in your day-to-day work?"
- **Wrap Up:** Thank your visitors by preparing bookmarks or another small token to give them at the end of their visit. Celebrate the success of your READ IN experiences by talking about the week in an assembly, in newsletters and in conversation with families. You can also use the hashtag #ReadInWeek on social media and tag @ReadInWeek on Twitter and @READINWeekyeg on Facebook.

Virtual Space

Whether you're using Zoom, Google Classroom or another piece of software, you can still have a great READ IN experience! On July 21, the Government of Alberta announced that the 2020-2021 school year will continue as "near normal" with health measures in place, meaning that many students will be returning to the classroom. However, outside visitors to schools are discouraged, so many schools and organizations may choose to have a guest reader join them virtually and livestream their event to the audience, rather than a traditional in-person visit.

- If you have distance learning students who are also joining virtually, set expectations about online behaviour at the start of the event. Remind students that if they'd like to speak, they need to raise their hand, either physically or by using the hand-raise feature of your virtual meeting if available.
- Guest readers love seeing faces! Be sure to turn on your video and unmute your audio so they can see and hear the reactions.

- Similar to an in-person event, let your guest reader introduce themselves and talk about what they do for a living. You can have students come prepared with questions for the guest such as “What is your favourite book?” and “How do you use reading in your day-to-day work?” Be sure to thank your guest reader at the end and unmute students joining virtually so they can say thank you as well.
- If you run into technical problems, don’t panic! If the guest reader is disconnected, send them a quick email to see if they’re trying to get back online. They may not be able to, in which case it’s always a good idea to have a book of your own that you’re prepared to read.
- Celebrate the success of your READ IN Week in conversation and online. You can use the hashtag #ReadInWeek on social media, and tag @ReadInWeek on Twitter and @READINWeekyeg on Facebook.
- If you plan to take a screenshot of your virtual event and post it online, make sure you have permission from the students’ families or are otherwise covered by a photography waiver. It’s also a good idea to check in with your guest reader to make sure they’re comfortable too.

Copyright Considerations

- You may be so excited about READ IN Week that you want to record your guest reader and post the video online. However, please be aware that many publishers have restrictions about recording and posting videos of their authors’ works.
- School Library Journal has compiled the statements from major publishers about use of their material in read alouds. You can access the article (last updated August 5) at www.schoollibraryjournal.com/?detailStory=remote-learning-still-the-norm-publishers-extend-permissions-for-read-alouds-COVID-19
- Many additional publishers, including smaller ones, provide similar permissions through the Access Copyright program (accesscopyright.ca). If your school is a member of this program, then you have a wider range of publishers to choose from, provided that your video is posted unlisted or within a members-only school platform.
- If you are interested in recording a book not mentioned in the School Library Journal article or covered under the Access Copyright program, you must reach out to the publisher for permission. Similarly, if you want to use a video in a way not covered above, you must contact the publisher for permission in advance of the event.
- Your READ IN Week committee has learned through our own research that Dr. Seuss allows full permission to use videos of his books in any way, including posting online as a public video and sharing widely.

INVITING GUEST READERS

Bringing guest readers into your school provides an opportunity to connect with community members and demonstrate the great things your students and staff are doing. READ IN is a platform for your school to show off what makes you great!

Who will you invite to READ IN?

- Ask your students for their input. Who would they like to invite?
- Who might spark student interest: an athlete, a politician, an author?
- Are there any particular initiatives going on at your school or topics you are studying that might connect well with a particular guest?
- Brainstorm an alphabet's worth of potential guests! Here are some ideas to get you started:
 - Architect, artist, author, activist
 - Ballerina, baker, brother
 - Chef, carpenter, conductor
 - Doctor, designer, drummer
 - Engineer, environmentalist
 - Father, farmer, family
 - Grandparent, geologist
 - Hockey coach, helper
 - Inventor, ice skater
 - Juggler, journalist, judge
 - Kangaroo keeper, kinesiologist
 - Librarian, lifeguard, lawyer
 - Magician, mechanic, mother
 - New Canadian, news reporter
 - Orthodontist, ornithologist
 - Performer, politician, parent
 - Quilter, Queen (it's worth a try!)
 - Radio host, referee
 - Scientist, singer, snowboarder
 - Traveler, television actor
 - Underground driller, umpire
 - Veterinarian, veteran
 - Welder, weaver, web developer
 - X-ray technician, xylophonist
 - Yak wrangler, Yo-yo champion
 - Zamboni driver, zoologist

See **page 8** for a list of contact information for some potential guests.

Communicating with Guest Readers

- Share details about the ages, group size and length of time allotted for the visit. This information is best communicated at least two weeks ahead of time to give your reader time to choose appropriate books, if needed.
- Ask if your guest plans to bring their own stories/books to share or if they would like the school to provide them. Some guests may be unsure about choosing books for particular age levels and appreciate your assistance. You can also provide a copy of this toolkit and point out **page 9** for suggested titles or direct them to readin.ca for booklists.
- If your event is virtual, be sure to send your guest reader a link to the meeting ahead of time. It's also a good idea to remind them of the process in case they lose connection (i.e. you will check in with them through email to see if they're able to get back on).
- If your event is in person, provide your guest with information about your location, available parking, where to check in once they've arrived and any health and safety protocols they need to observe. Ask if they need anything ahead of time, such as a chair or a glass of water.
- Encourage your guest to tell students about the importance of reading in their own life and work.

GUEST READER CONTACT LIST

CITY OF EDMONTON MAYOR

Don Iveson

Request a visit online at

<https://coewebapps.edmonton.ca/contactmayor/>

Due to the number of invitations the Mayor receives, please send your invitation at least six to eight weeks in advance of your event. Once the invitation is reviewed, you will receive confirmation if the Mayor is able to attend.

CITY COUNSELORS

Ward 1: Andrew Knack

Andrew.Knack@edmonton.ca
780 496-8122

Ward 5: Sarah Hamilton

Sarah.Hamilton@edmonton.ca
780 496-8120

Ward 9: Tim Cartmell

Tim.Cartmell@edmonton.ca
780 496-8130

Ward 2: Bev Esslinger

Bev.Esslinger@edmonton.ca
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Ward 6: Scott McKeen

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Ward 10: Michael Walters

Michael.Walters@edmonton.ca
780 496-8132

Ward 3: Jon Dziadyk

Jon.Dziadyk@edmonton.ca
780 496-8128

Ward 7: Tony Caterina

Tony.Caterina@edmonton.ca
780 496-8333

Ward 11: Mike Nickel

Mike.Nickel@edmonton.ca
780 496-8142

Ward 4: Aaron Paquette

Aaron.Paquette@edmonton.ca
780 496-8138

Ward 8: Ben Henderson

Ben.Henderson@edmonton.ca
780 496-8146

Ward 12: Mohinder Banga

Mohinder.Banga@edmonton.ca
780 496-8148

VIPs IN THE COMMUNITY

- Provincial MLAs and federal MPs
- Parents and grandparents of your students
- Edmonton Public Library staff
- School board trustees
- Members of a service organization such as Rotary or Lions Club
- Local authors
- Veterans from the Royal Canadian Legion (rcledmonton.com)
- Principal and Assistant Principal of your school
- Local television personalities and broadcasters
- Local sports teams
- Representatives from Edmonton Police Service, Edmonton Fire Rescue Services and Emergency Medical Services
- Education students at Concordia, Norquest, MacEwan, University of Alberta and other post-secondary institutions
- Local businesses and community supporters

TIPS FOR GUEST READERS

Tips for Choosing Books

The theme for 2020 is Read Around the World, but where to begin?

Edmonton Public Library has great ideas to get you started. Visit epl.ca/readin to access these booklists of suggested titles and so much more:

- Read Around the World for K-3
- Read Around the World for Grades 4-6
- Read Around the World for Junior High and High School

Still not sure?

- No problem! Think back to your own childhood. Do you have a favourite book you want to share? If there's a title you love, go ahead and spread that love to others!
- Want to share a longer book? Go for it! You can pique your audience's interest by reading them the first chapter, or maybe just skip right to the action!
- No matter what book you choose, you can borrow a copy from Edmonton Public Library by searching the public library catalogue at epl.ca.
- Consider reading an eBook, especially if your event is virtual anyway! Edmonton Public Library has lots of great eBook vendors. Hoopla (www.hoopladigital.com) is a great platform to start with because there's no limit to the number of people who can borrow the same eBook at one time and they have plenty of picture books and chapter books to choose from.

Tips for Reading Out Loud – In Person

- If you're reading a picture book, make sure everybody can see the images! Pause at the end of every page so that your audience can soak in the details of the images. Pan the picture book from your left to your right so everyone can get a good look. If you're reading an e-picture book, share your screen so that everybody can see the pictures.
- Make sure to speak loudly enough so that everyone can hear; it doesn't hurt to check with your audience before you start reading.
- Pause in the story to ask your own questions. "What do you think is going to happen next?" is always a good one to ask. "Was that a good decision?" is a great question to ask after a character does something. Kids also love it when you exclaim, "Oh no! Who's as nervous as I am about what's happening next?". Audience participation keeps everyone engaged.
- If your book contains a lot of action, you can combine story and movement by having your audience act some of it out. Stomp your feet, clap your hands, do a jumping jack – this is great especially for younger kids who may not be able to sit still for a long time.

Tips for Reading Out Loud – Virtual Environment

- Find a spot that's relatively quiet and free of background noise, whether it's other people, pets or street sounds.
- Avoid being backlit – don't film with a window behind you or in the frame since it is likely to make it difficult for people to see you.
- Be aware of your background – make sure there isn't anything there you wouldn't want your audience to see! Clean, tidy backgrounds also make it easier for your audience to focus on you.
- Make sure the camera angle is tilted at an angle where your audience can see you and your book, and no part is being cut off.
- It never hurts to get dressed up in preparation for reading to an audience, unless you want them to see you in your PJs!

ONLINE READ IN RESOURCES

Visit readin.ca for more resources to help plan your READ IN events:

- Logos for publicity materials
- Printable poster
- List of suggested books
- Up-to-date links to publisher statements on access and copyright use
- Tip sheet of other suggested READ IN Week activities your school or organization can enjoy



Read Around the World

readin.ca