SUMMER READING CLUB REPORT 2017







Australian Library and Information Association





Executive Summary

"As community repositories of literature, science, and heritage... libraries build on how children learn best, by designing and delivering content-rich, play-based experiences that link... to books, exhibits, and collections. Their resources prompt parents and caregivers to explore, pose questions, make connections, exchange information and ideas, and instil in young children not only a love of learning, but also the skills for learning."

(Institute of Museum and Library Services. (2013) Growing Young Minds: How Museums and Libraries Create Lifelong Learners, p9 Retrieved from https://www.imls.gov/assets/1/ AssetManager/GrowingYoungMinds.pdf)

The outcomes of the 2017 Summer Reading Club (SRC) Game On program continue to demonstrate that the SRC is an effective resource for encouraging sustained literacy, access to literature, and involvement with local libraries by children, young people and their families during the summer holidays.

Led by State Library of Queensland (SLQ), in partnership with the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA), the Australian Public Library Alliance (APLA), Libraries ACT, LINC Tasmania, Northern Territory Library, NSW Public Libraries Association, Public Libraries Australia, Public Libraries South Australia, Public Libraries Victoria Network and Public Libraries Western Australia, the Summer Reading Club Game On program was delivered from 1 December 2017 to 31 January 2018, both online and in 1,076 (75%) public library branches (includes mobile libraries and Indigenous Knowledge Centres) across Australia.

APLA's continued commitment to the delivery of this national, highly successful literacy campaign encourages libraries to use their library spaces, resources and collections to enrich the lives of children, young people and families; engage, connect, inform and inspire a love of recreational reading and the library habit; and places libraries as 'active connectors' in building literacy, language and learning in their communities. Key outcomes* of 2017 Summer Reading Club program at a glance:

75%

of Australian Public Libraries participated

1,076

library service points delivered Summer Reading Club activities

69,963

children and young people participated in library summer holiday programs

43,543

children and young people formally registered in the Summer Reading Club

361,607 books logged

\$65K

distribution of library activation kits and promotional materials

4.7 million = 23% increase

estimated audience media reach

20,644

visits to the Summer Reading Club website (sessions)

32

collaborative partnerships and sponsors including:

- Public Library Associations
- Australian publishers
- Britiannica Digital Learning

*Based on information collected from online forms, Google Analytics (GA), data received from 62% of participating library services and feedback collected from libraries and participants.

The Summer Reading Club

"Public libraries have for a long time played a valuable role in helping children to learn to read through Story Time and associated programs and provision of children's collections. While this continues to be a cornerstone of public library programming, many libraries are now offering programs and resources for the development of youth and adult literacy." Guidelines, Standards and Outcome Measures for Australian Public Libraries, July 2016, p77.

The Summer Reading Club (SRC) program aims to assist public libraries in stimulating a love of recreational reading and building a lifelong library habit. During the summer months children and parents participate in SRC activities and themed holiday programs across Australia, both online and in library spaces. In addition to sustaining literacy, participation in the SRC allows children, young people and their families the opportunity to:

- ENGAGE with libraries and library collections,
- **DISCOVER** and develop knowledge, understanding and skills related to the annual SRC theme, and
- **ENJOY** reading books and participating in activities that inspire a love of reading, literature and the library habit.

Engagement with libraries is central to the SRC program. Funding and resource contributions from APLA and SLQ enable the annual creation and delivery of a themed SRC program and resources for use by Australian public libraries.

Participating libraries receive access to downloadable program materials and ongoing support in the delivery of their SRC programs. Development of program materials on a national scale minimises participation costs while allowing public libraries the flexibility to deliver localised SRC programming that is responsive to their community's needs.

A National Literacy Program

APLA representatives reported, as of 30 September 2017, 1,432 public library branches (includes mobile libraries and Indigenous Knowledge Centres in some states) were operating in Australia.

In 2017, 1,076 library branches (75% of Australian public libraries) participated in the Summer Reading Club: Game On program providing extensive opportunities for children, young people and their families to engage with libraries, library collections, holiday programs and activities to support recreational reading and sustained literacy throughout the summer months. The involvement of so many libraries substantiates the Summer Reading Club program as a national literacy program. 2896*

41%

75% of Australian Public Libraries delivered Summer Reading Club activities in 2017.

74%

98%

100% library participation in Summer Reading Club

* Note: There are 32 public libraries operating in the Northern Territory (NT); of those 22 are Indigenous Knowledge Centres, and are 11 mainstream public libraries. In the NT, the Summer Reading Program is only held in the mainstream public libraries. This figure is representative of the percentage of mainstream libraries participating.

60%

Libraries Love the SRC

We asked libraries what they value the most about the Summer Reading Club program:

ACT

Keeping families connected over summer. Jessica Begley, Libraries ACT

NSW

The resources make it easy to promote our program and save us a huge amount of time that would be needed to develop these resources in-house.

Jacqui Smith, Broken Hill City Library

The impact that it has on the families in the local area. Our LGA has some areas with very low literacy rates. Melinda Benzie, Campbelltown City Library Service

We value the opportunity to participate in a national program. It is an added point of value for public libraries in promoting literacy.

John Fahy, Georges River Libraries

The SRC brings many children to the library who might not otherwise visit and keeps children reading through the summer. Wendy Banister, City of Canada Bay Library Service

The program support we receive enables us to run a fabulous program which we may not normally have time to facilitate. Elizabeth Skorulis, Kiama Library

NT

Through delivery of the SRC we notice increased community visitation in our space and are able to offer a highly valued family literacy engagement program.

Alice Goddard, Alice Springs Public Library

We love the great themes and materials and the great web site. Rosie Martinez, City of Darwin Libraries

QLD

I appreciate that there are so many materials prepared and available for free so I can encourage local children to read and be involved in the library over the summer school holidays. Sharon Millet, Gin Gin Library

The opportunity to connect and learn from other libraries, and knowing that we are part of a network working on the same program.

Sandra Sayaxang, Cairns Libraries

We love the brand. The Summer Reading Club has had a very positive influence on our young library members for years now and staff observe a build-up of excitement each year as registration day gets closer. It's a great way for the library service to encourage our community to read over the school holidays. **Curtis Dray, Gympie Regional Libraries**

The opportunity to encourage library memberships. Of our 70 registrations this year, over 30 signed up as new members! Kasey Allwood, Livingstone Shire Libraries

The sense of purpose and focus on addressing the issue of the Summer Slide.

Leith Charlton, Redland Libraries

SA

That it is a national program already organised for us! Lynn Spurling, Copper Coast Libraries

It provides an opportunity to engage with our communities over the summer holidays. We love seeing lots of families in our libraries using all of our services. Bridget Coulter, Onkaparinga Libraries

We love being able to offer families an ongoing program over the entire summer school holidays that encourages and focuses on developing a love of reading.

Simone Wise-Carrig, Norwood, Payneham & St. Peters Libraries

Offering literacy support to young people; engaging with younger library members and their families; fostering a love of reading. Louise Mrdjen, Port Lincoln Library

TAS

An opportunity to promote reading and learning within our younger community. Georgetown Community Hub

It provides a great chance to inform clients about the value of libraries and reading and lifelong learning. Kate Headlam, Hobart LINC

VIC

The aspect that we value the most about the SRC is that it encourages children to continue to visit the library outside of school times. It was great to see children encouraging each other to join, participate and working together to complete competitions, and to see children and parents coming into the libraries together to participate.

Van My Nguyen Dang, City of Greater Dandenong Library Services

Not having to reinvent the wheel each year. The provision of activities, artwork and all other resources is fantastic and gives us a chance to keep readers engaged.

Trish Costello, Corangamite Regional Library Corporation

The opportunity to promote our collection and recreational reading to children.

Christine Vandor, Geelong Regional Libraries Corporation

WA

The professional design and promotion of materials, particularly ones that I can use as a holiday activity and link back into our collection. I really appreciate the level of preparation that I don't have to do and the fact that it is being delivered nationally is a big plus.

Melissa Payne, Cambridge Library

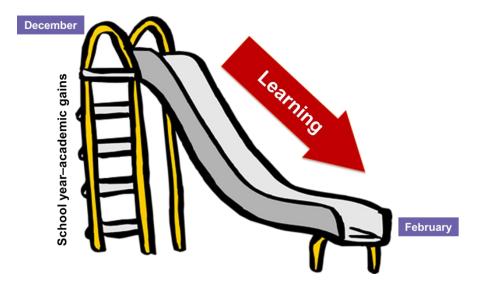
Our libraries value the support, the resources, media kits, social media options and the add-ons to help promote the club over the holidays. It's great that families are aware that it's on and it's a valuable family activity. It's a fabulous message that children can read what they love and are interested in, rather than reading instructional texts.

Sharon Carnegie, Wanneroo Library & Cultural Centre

Sustaining Literacy

Combatting the Summer Slide

The loss of learning over the summer months is often referred to as the "Summer Slide." This tendency to lose some of the academic achievement gains made in the school year occurs as children disengage from participation in educational activities during the summer months and can put children at risk upon their return to school.



Research continues to demonstrate that access to books, involvement in fun recreational reading programs and extending connections to literature through arts and multi-media activities has proven to combat the Summer Slide. Libraries are best situated to help children and families support continued development of multi-literacy skills in children throughout the summer by actively working to connect them to programming and resources which encourage reading for fun and enjoyment.

Data collected from libraries demonstrates they are identifying the SRC as an effective tool for combatting the Summer Slide by sustaining and encouraging reading and learning during the summer holidays. Children, young people, and their families express their enjoyment of reading and writing as a direct result of their participation in the SRC. Parents and caregivers also report an increase in recreational reading by their children during the summer months as they participate in the SRC.

Library Case Studies



In, 2017 Vision Australia subscribed to the SRC Program and offered GAME ON themed activities to their young people and families. Sarah Bloedorn, Children and Youth Services, reported that 36 children participated in their program and 92 books were logged.

Sarah notes, "Our SRC was an audiobook program for our clients who have vision loss or dyslexia. Our readers from all over Australia signed up, and we recommended titles relating to the 'Game On' theme that we have in our library in audio. One family with two children who have dyslexia returned their completed reading logs, having read over 20 titles each! They had taken our suggestions for titles, but had also found new books to enjoy. The SRC for our clients is a way for them to find new titles in the library and to expand their reading. Having audiobooks means that children who have vision loss or dyslexia can enjoy listening to stories. They can enjoy the books their peers are enjoying, and confidently build their literacy."

LINC Tasmania are committed to early literacy and providing children with the opportunity to engage with reading. In feedback received this year, Kingston LINC shared that the Summer Reading Club is a great way to motivate children to read during their summer school holidays, engage with Kingston LINC and to be involved with services at their library.

"In addition, to supporting literacy, the Summer Reading Club theme 'Game On' gave us the opportunity to engage the children in our community with many varied activities from juggling with a local circus group to playing Scrabble on the giant Scrabble Board in our main library space. We took the opportunity to collaborate with a local gaming business and offer three introductory classes to games that Kingston LINC staff were unable to teach." *Jacqui Gangell, Children's Team Leader Kingston LINC, TAS*

Rachel Carr from Mid-Western Regional Council Libraries, NSW shares that their motivation for continued delivery of the Summer Reading Club in their spaces is that it encourages children to continue reading over the holiday period. "It's important they don't stop reading outside of school hours, particularly for such a long period over summer holidays."

Achieving Strategic Outcomes

The collection of quantitative data is important in substantiating the literacy outcomes, reach and impact of the Summer Reading Club (SRC) program. SRC literacy outcomes are measured by participant feedback, observation, and counting numbers of books read and the number of children and young people participating.

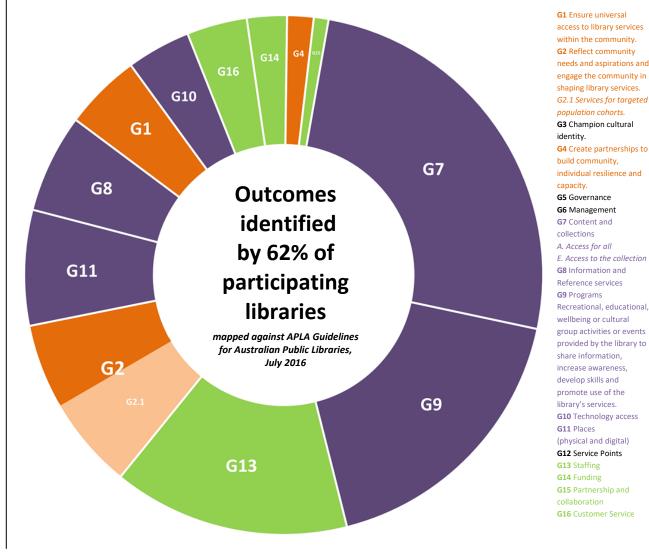
When mapped against the sixteen guidelines or recommended areas of operational focus outlined in *The Guidelines, Standards and Outcome Measures for Australian Public Libraries, 2017* library responses demonstrate that the delivery of the Summer Reading Club aligns to 81% of the operational guidelines recommended for public libraries in Australia.

In addition to literacy outcomes the Summer Reading Club program is helping libraries to achieve strategic community focus, service offering and service delivery objectives by:

- providing increased access to library content and collections (G7),
- supporting libraries in their objective to deliver programming (G9),
- positively impacting staff involved in delivery (G13), and
- providing opportunities for increased engagement with communities (G2), and in particular children and families (G2.1).

Adding to these measures, of the 62% of libraries who returned reporting data, it was also identified that participation in the Summer Reading Club as a national program allows libraries to:

- reallocate hours spent in development of program materials into program delivery (33%),
- leverage other program opportunities in relation to the annual programming theme (28%),
- leverage community partnerships (27%),
- seek additional funding (both internal and external)(12%), and
- approach authors and illustrators to participate in their programs (7%).



"Library programs allow participants to develop strong, deep and productive connections with their library, its collections and staff, other participants and their community. [Delivery of the Summer Reading Club program is] core to library operations as [it has] the capacity to efficiently deliver real and significant benefits to individuals and communities." Guidelines, Standards and Outcome Measures for Australian Public Libraries, July 2016 p39.

7

2017 Data – A Historical Data Snapshot

The 2017 SRC report statistics are based on information collected from online forms, Google Analytics (GA), and reporting data and feedback received from 62% of participating libraries. The following table compares a range of Summer Reading Club outputs from 2013 to 2017. Decreases in figures for 2017 are a reflection of lowered data return, not participation in the program.

Summer Reading Club Comparison of SRC Outputs 2013-2017	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	% increase /decrease from 2016
Number of Australian public library branches*	1425	1402	1426	1433	1432	< 1%
Number of participating libraries	864	1040	1058	1066	1076	1%
Libraries returning program evaluation data	46%	54%	60%	70%	62% (671 libraries)	-11%
Total number of children and young people participating in library summer holiday programming	X	X	X	82,507	69,963	-15%
Total number of children registered	34,576	41,589	48,419	55,874	43,543	-22%
Children registered in libraries	29,877	35,150	42,396	50,956	39,580	-22%
Children registering online	4,699	6,439	6,023	4,918	3,963	-19.4%
Number of books read	234,468	267,919	333,275	456,187	361,607	-20.73%
Number of books logged online	N/A	N/A	10,459	13,778	13,554	-1.63%
SRC website engagement (dashboard, program site, & themed Club site)**						
No. of sessions (discrete visits made to the site)	13,328	13,856	21,366	21,478	36,025	67.73%
No. of page views (total number of pages viewed)	91,124	129,021	139,500	72,492 ⁺	179,229	147.24%
Number of authors and illustrators profiled on SRC website	17	21	21	21	21	
Cost of provision of SRC (GST inc)***	\$164,000	\$183,000	\$199,000	\$189,000	\$204,000	7.94%
Funds generated from SRC Merchandise (GST inc)	\$30,000	\$52,000	\$63,050	\$53,176**	\$71,777	34.98%

*Data based in total branches per state provided by state APLA representatives.

** Data extracted annually from 1 April 2017 to 28 February 2018.

**** Rounded to nearest thousand. Includes estimated SLQ resourcing costs of \$88,000 (SLQ Coordinator, SLQ Graphic Design, SLQ Web Services Support).

⁺ In 2016, overall pages on SRC website were reduced.

⁺⁺ In 2017, funds generated from sale of SRC Merchandise were 100% cost recoverable; no mark-up was included in 2017 pricing.

SRC Nationwide—2017

The following information is provided to highlight the achievements by state.



ACT – Seventh year of participation in national SRC program

Libraries participating	100%	9 of 9 library branches	
Participation in library programming	400 children and young people		
Children registered in SRC	28	In libraries ACT does not track registrations	Online 28
Books read	10,095	Logged in library 10,000	Logged online 95
Merchandise	\$299.20 (GST inc)		
Library display submissions	0 submissions		

NSW – Seventh year of participation in national SRC program

Libraries 98% 361 of 368		361 of 368 library branch	1 of 368 library branches		
	Participation in library programming	12,470 children and young people			
	Children	13,605	In libraries	Online	
	registered in SRC		12,721	884	
	Books read	122,705	Logged in library 119,518	Logged online 3,187	
	Merchandise	\$26,163.50 (GST inc) 5 submissions			
	Library display submissions				

Libraries 9 of 32* library branches 28% *note: 33 branches comprise the NT Library Service. 11 are participating public libraries; 22 indigenous knowledge centres. Only the public libraries participate in the SRC Participation 719 children and young people in library programming Children 547 Online In libraries registered in SRC 535 12 **Books read** 3454 Logged in library Logged online 3,396 58 Merchandise \$679.80 (GST inc) Library display 2 submissions

QLD – Seventh year of participation in national SRC program

submissions

Libraries participating	74%	245 of 330 Library branches/Indigenous Knowled Centres (IKCs)		
Participation in library programming	36,420 children and young people			
Children registered in SRC	13,878	In libraries/IKCs 12,906	Online 972	
Books read	86,644	Logged in library 83,400	Logged online 3,244	
Merchandise	\$27,417.70 (GST inc)			
Library display submissions	10 submissions			

NT – Seventh year of participation in national SRC program



SA – Seventh year of participation in national SRC program

Libraries participating	60%	78 of 130 library branches		
Participation in library programming	3,808 children and young people			
Children registered in SRC	2,216	In libraries 2,019	Online 197	
Books read	22,194	Logged online 665		
Merchandise	\$6125.90 (GST inc)			
Library display submissions	0 submissions			

VIC – Seventh year of participation in national SRC program

Libraries participating 84% 228 of 272 libr			228 of 272 library branch	orary branches	
	Participation in library programming	11,061 children and young people			
	Children registered in SRC	10,652	In libraries 9,967	Online 685	
	Books read	89,706	Logged in library 87,008	Logged online 2,698	
	Merchandise	\$22,806.41 (GST inc) 3 submissions			
	Library display submissions				



TAS – Seventh year of participation in national SRC program

Libraries participating	100%	46 of 46 library branches		
Participation in library programming	970 children and young people			
Children registered in SRC	424	In libraries	Online 424	
Books read	52,642	Logged in library 51,453	Logged online 1,189	
Merchandise	\$1,981.10 (GST inc)			
Library display submissions	1 submission			

WA – Third year of participation in national SRC program

Libraries participating	41%	100 of 245 library branches		
Participation in library programming	4,108 children and young people			
Children	2,070	In libraries	Online	
registered in SRC		1,394	676	
Books read	15,575	Logged in library 14,046	Logged online 1,529	
Merchandise	\$ 7,422.80 (GST inc)			
Library display submissions	0 submissions			

2017 External Engagement

Summer Reading Club (SRC) Website A 67.73% increase in visits (36,025) to the Summer Reading Club website was recorded from 1 April 2017 to 28 February 2018.

The SRC website is comprised of two separate sites that target the different audiences accessing the program:

The SRC Program Information Portal summerreadingclub.org.au/program-portal/

Housing information relating to libraries and organisations delivering summer reading clubs. Libraries register their information, place merchandise orders and download SRC program resources from this site. From 1 April 2017 through to 28 February 2018 Google Analytics (GA) tracked 8,339 visits to the program site, marking a 3.24% increase from 2016 in use of the program site.

The SRC Club or themed activity site summerreadingclub.org.au/welcome/

An interactive component of the SRC website for children and young people created to extend SRC programming into homes, support connections to literature and provide exposure for Australian authors and illustrators. Activities on this site are updated each year to align with the annual theme and are open for participation from 1 December to 31 January. Libraries are encouraged to incorporate activities from the SRC Club site into their local onsite programming.

When compared to the same period in 2016, the SRC Club or themed website saw a 15% increase in overall activity in 2017. From 1 December 2017 through 31 January 2018 Google Analytics (GA) tracked 9,101 visits to the themed website, equating to 44% of the overall website traffic, (marking a 1% increase in visits) along with a 18% increase in postings (2,283 book raves, blog comments, competition entries, gallery submissions). In addition 13,554 books were logged online demonstrating that the online program content continues to be engaging children and young people. The SRC Club Registration, Log My Books and Competitions pages continue to be high drivers of participation on the Club site. Over the two month period of program delivery, the activity on the SRC Club site constitutes 44% of all visits to the website, and 76.68% of page views. GA data also records that 4,493 visits or 49% of the visits to the SRC Club or themed website were via a mobile device. In addition to this data, a continued low overall bounce rate indicates that the site is meeting user's expectations.

Media

Between 1 November 2017 and 28 February 2018, 531 media mentions relating to the Summer Reading Club 2017 program, reached a cumulative audience of more than 4.7 million people (23% increase from 2016) through a mix of media outlets including online news sites, blogs and websites, print newspapers, and radio. Media outlets from ACT, New South Wales, Queensland, South Australia, Tasmania, Victoria and Western Australia all reported on Summer Reading Club, with 58% of media mentions coming from New South Wales, 13% from Queensland and 12% from Victoria. In addition, growing traction on social media saw an 800% increase in activity from 2016 with over 1225 Summer Reading Club social media posts recorded, reaching an additional estimated audience of 4.7 million, as libraries and families shared and posted their Summer Reading Club activities and programs. The growth in mentions via social media warrants these platforms to continue to be utilised to promote future Summer Reading Club programs. The Summer Reading Club closed Facebook working group, SRC Champions, has 95 members at 21 of May 2018.

Sponsors/Supporters

Author recommendations and receipt of in-kind donations from program supporters provides content for the SRC online program, enables the SRC to mail participation packs and prizes to children across Australia, and helps to increase exposure to Australian authors and illustrators. In 2017, Allen and Unwin, Black Ink Books, Bonnier Publishing, DLS Books, Freemantle Press, Hatchette, Harper Collins, James Bennett, Kids Reading Guide, Literary Australia, Midnight Sun Publishing, Next Media, Penguin Random House, Scholastic, Speakers Ink, University of Queensland Press, provided author recommendations and book selections. For the seventh year as a national program, Britannica Digital Learning, in association with Encyclopaedia Britannica Australia, provided online quiz content and the donation of eight mini iPads, valued at \$3000.

I am pleased that the EB sponsorship adds to the success of the Summer Reading Club. We would be happy to again sponsor the event this year. We look forward to another successful Reading Club. James Buckle, Managing Director Asia Pacific Britannica Digital Learning

Budget

The 2017 SRC operated to a budget of \$118K (GST exclusive).

The SRC Budget is comprised of contributions from the Australian Library and Information Association's (ALIA) Australian Public Library Alliance (APLA) \$25,000, State Library of Queensland \$27,748 (SLQ) and monies derived from the sale of SRC themed collateral \$65, 252.

Note: This does not include State Library of Queensland's operational costs. The actual outlay to deliver the SRC is estimated to be \$204,000 (GST inc) when staffing/resource costs (dedicated resource to coordinate the delivery of the SRC, internal marketing, communications and web services support) are included.

Expenditure

SRC expenditure for 2017 totalled \$118K not including SLQ operational costs. 2017 saw the distribution of SRC themed resources to the value of \$65,252 (GST exc); with 800 resource kits and 2,492 lots of merchandise (1,377,130 items) being ordered and distributed. Revenue generated from the sale of these resources offset 100% of the production of resources and costs of distribution. To keep costs to libraries at a minimum, merchandise pricing is assessed annually to remain cost effective, while being inclusive of costs associated with production and distribution. Additional expenditure was also incurred on graphic design, website development, online activities, prizes, and national advertising.

OUTCOMES

Benefits of the Summer Reading Club

- Combatting summer learning loss,
- Instilling a love of recreational reading and libraries,
- Promotion of cultural literacy,
- Helps libraries to meet operational objectives and Key Performance Indicators (KPI's),
- Affords libraries, librarians and participating staff the opportunity to strengthen and expand their role in supporting the needs of their community, and
- Demonstrates that collectively libraries are impacting children and families one by one.

The benefits of a national delivery of the SRC program

- The ability for State Library of Queensland and participating libraries to tell a richer more robust story of the impact of libraries in sustaining literacy,
- Increased efficiencies in libraries by minimising cost and time to participating libraries,
- Creation of a community of practice,
- Opportunity for national reach/sponsorship/funding,
- Opportunity to engage with / promote Australian authors/illustrators, and
- Allows Australian libraries to be competitive on the global stage as summer reading programs are a library staple in countries across the globe.

Centralised coordination and review of the program affords the opportunity to:

- Improve the scope, reach and efficiency of the SRC program,
- Inform and more efficiently manage resources,
- Establish a recognised brand and anticipated library program,
- Celebrate the success of the program, and
- Advocate or make a more compelling case for funding, investment and involvement in the SRC.

RECOMMENDATIONS

To continue to provide appropriate resources and ongoing value to public libraries, children, young people and families across Australia, the SRC is committed to a process of continuous improvement which involves evaluating feedback from all available sources.

Based on feedback and outcomes in 2017, the following recommendations are proposed for implementation in 2018:

- Continue to deliver the Summer Reading Club as a national library literacy program.
- Develop a three year strategic plan (2017-2020) for delivery of Summer Reading Club for ratification by the Australian Public Library Alliance (APLA) and the Australian Library and Information Association (ALIA).
 Plan to include funding proposals, website development plans and recommendations for tenth year anniversary of SRC program.
- Improve and refine program resources in response to library feedback to enhance the delivery of their SRC programs and to aid in increasing participation, both by libraries and children, young people and families.
- Develop a communications guide to assist libraries in promoting and sharing their outcomes across an array of platforms.
- Release programming themes for 2018, 2019 and 2020.
- Continue to work with the Australian Children's Literature Alliance (ACLA) and the Australian Children's Laureate as featured components of the SRC online program.

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government-funded agency available to children from babyhood, providing year-round free access to resources, [programs] and services that support literacy.

Public libraries are the only

The Early Literacy Framework and Strategy for Australian Public Libraries, developed by the ALIA Public Libraries Advisory Committee, p1. ©State Library of Queensland 2018

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