



## **Welcome to the 2017 British Columbia Summer Reading Club!**

This manual was created to assist you in planning, promoting, and implementing the BC Summer Reading Club (BC SRC) in your community. It includes program outlines, booklists, and activity pages corresponding to seven weekly themes, and sample letters and press releases to assist in promotion. You are free to modify these materials to best suit the needs of your library and community. This manual and other resources are available online at [kidsrc.libraries.coop](http://kidsrc.libraries.coop).

## **Why run a summer reading club?**

Summer reading programs encourage kids to read regularly and thus maintain or improve their reading skills during the summer months. Primary goals of BC SRC are to help kids develop or maintain the habit of regular reading and to promote public libraries as a community resource for year-round, life-long learning. Each library in British Columbia creates its own summer reading club using the BC SRC materials as the starting point.

## **Increasing Inclusion and Accessibility**

A special thanks to our consultant Tess Prendergast. Under her guidance, the Inclusion Review Team (Emma Rumley, Lucinda Murray, Meredith Temple) reviewed the manual and offered ideas and suggestions to increase the accessibility and inclusion of the programs and activities. In addition, they have provided us with some excellent general guidelines:

- Be aware that your audience will always include children of varying abilities.
- Feel comfortable to mix 'n match activities based on the needs and abilities of the children participating.
- Let Summer Students and/or Volunteers know it's OK to adapt a program/activity.
- When possible, include (good!) books that feature children of different abilities and backgrounds.
- Normalize accommodations and/or participation of a child's caregiver with phrases such as "You can do this activity by yourself or with a partner".
- If an activity includes the use of plants (or a substance that may cause an allergic reaction), you may wish to include this info ahead of time to give people advance notice

## **Overall theme and weekly themes**

Get ready to explore nature as you inspire kids to discover the natural world around them, all while celebrating reading this summer! This year's BC Summer Reading Club theme is: **Walk on the Wild Side!**

**Seven weekly sub-themes have been selected to use as inspiration for your programs, activities, displays, and contests:**

1. Cougars and Otters and Ravens, oh my! (all things animals)
2. Explora the Flora (plants, trees, flowers)
3. Spot Nature's Magic (seasons, camouflage, metamorphosis)
4. Beautiful British Columbia (mountains, valleys, parks)
5. Weather Watchers (clouds, rain, snow)
6. Go Fish! (sea life, shorelines, fish)
7. Tales of Nature (nature traditions and legends)

## Artwork

Our gorgeous artwork was created by **Darlene Gait**.

Darlene Gait is an Aboriginal artist from Victoria, British Columbia. She is a member of Esquimalt Nation, the first people of Victoria. Her work is vivid, filled with life, and inspired by her own deeply personal connection to nature — a perfect match for this year's theme "Walk on the Wild Side".

Darlene's beautiful picture books include *Secret of the Dance*, *Who is In Maxine's Tree?*, *Catching Spring*, *Soapstone Signs* (Orca Books). Her design featuring the cultural legend of Orca transitioning to Wolf appears on the new BC Ferries vessel, Salish Orca on the Comox — Powell River route.

To learn more about Darlene and her work, please see her bio and her website [onemoon.ca](http://onemoon.ca).

## Materials

Materials for this year's SRC include the reading record, stickers, poster, and bookmarks. Funding from Libraries Branch, BC Ministry of Education, allows SRC to provide BC public libraries with these materials, which are then used in the creation of summer reading programs that are unique to each library and community.

**Reading Record:** The reading record is a fun way for kids to record what they are reading. The reading record has seven panels with seven empty lines, marked by seven black-and-white icons. Each icon corresponds to one of whatever you decide kids will track: days of reading, or books/chapters read. Your library can suggest a reading goal, such as 15 minutes of reading a day, or let kids set their own goal. Kids can use the lines to record the titles or chapter of some or all of their books, or they may colour/fill the icons in to track their reading accomplishments.

**Stickers:** The reading record has spaces for seven stickers: one on the cover and 6 on the back panels. A sticker can be awarded for each seven days of reading, or when seven books or chapters are read, or simply on a weekly basis.

**Bookmarks:** Many libraries give kids an SRC bookmark when they register; others use them to reward a reading milestone, or as prizes.

**Poster:** Display posters in the library and throughout your community! Send them to local schools, community centres, businesses and services in your area.

**Medals:** Traditionally, these are given to participants who complete the entire reading record or summer reading program. Decide what completion entails in your community and when the medals will be given out. Many libraries have big parties at the end of the summer at which medals are awarded to participants. Please consider inviting local politicians and RBC (Royal Bank of Canada) representatives to thank them for their support and to show the community the importance of literacy and reading promotion.

## Websites

BC SRC Librarians' website: <http://kidssrc.libraries.coop/>

Includes the contents of this manual as well as the 2017 BC SRC artwork and logos etc. You will also find an archive of BC SRC websites from previous years.

BC SRC Kids' site: [www.bcsrc.ca](http://www.bcsrc.ca) Fun literacy-based activities for school-aged children.

## **Sponsors**

The BC Summer Reading Club is sponsored by the British Columbia Library Association and local public libraries, with funding assistance from Libraries Branch, BC Ministry of Education and the RBC Foundation (Royal Bank of Canada).

Please consider sending thank-you notes to your local RBC branch, the Minister of Education, and your local Library Board, letting them know their support is greatly appreciated. Recognize the sponsors in your SRC promotional materials and advertisements as it is with the support of these institutions that public libraries throughout the province are able to reach over 155,000 children.

## **2017 BC SRC Committee**

The 2017 BC Summer Reading Club is brought to you by a hard-working team:

BC SRC Provincial Coordinator: Cynthia Ford

BC SRC Committee Chair: Emily Olsen (Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library System)

BC SRC Committee (Past) Chair: Kate Adams (Richmond Public Library)

A huge thanks goes to the 2017 Content Creators who, along with their wonderfully creative colleagues, produced most of the content for this manual:

Activity Pages: Meghan Ross and the Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library System

Booklists: Mehjabeen Ali and Surrey Public Library

Documents: Julie Carter, Vancouver Island Regional Library

Preschool Programs: Anne Martin and Vancouver Public Library

Primary Programs: Wiena Groenewold and Fraser Valley Regional Library

Tween Programs: Susan McCowan and Thompson-Nicola Regional District Library System

Web Quizzes: Tina Lee and Burnaby Public Library

We are lucky to have an amazing team of people who provide invaluable support to the BC SRC, including: graphic designer Roger Handling (Terra Firma Digital Arts), web wizard Neil Firkins, Scott Leslie and the BC Libraries Cooperative, web designer Shayne Letain (Rain in Spain Creative Studio), Michael Burris and staff at Interlink, Consultant Tess Prendergast, together with Emma Rumley, Lucinda Murray, Meredith Temple (Inclusion Review Team), Mari Martin (Director, Libraries Branch, Ministry of Education), Cassie McFadden (Office Manager, BCLA); Angie Ayupova (Administrative Assistant, BCLA) and Annette DeFaveri (Executive Director, BCLA).

Questions, comments, or ideas? Is your library keen to help create the 2018 BC SRC? We'd like to hear from you! Please contact Emily Olsen, Committee Chair ([eolsen@tnrd.ca](mailto:eolsen@tnrd.ca)) or Cynthia Ford, Provincial Coordinator ([bcsrc@bclibrary.ca](mailto:bcsrc@bclibrary.ca)).