

The Book Nook

by Kate Oland

Hey kids! It's time to make a splash with Cape Breton Regional Library's 2011 Summer Reading Program! If you've finished grade Primary, you can sign up for this free program to read library books and win cool prizes.

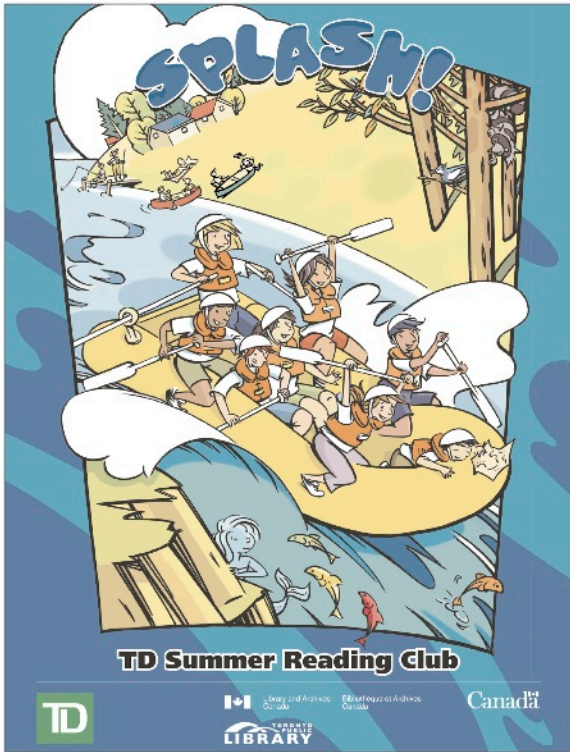
Reading can be fun, relaxing, exciting, and interesting. It can teach us things, or help us pass the time. Wherever you go and whatever you become, it helps to be able to read. That's why keeping our "reading muscles" exercised over the summer is important.

Did you know that kids who don't read over the summer often lose some of their reading skills and find school more difficult in September? It's like they say - "Use it, or lose it!" That's where the Summer Reading Program comes in.

Here's how it works. Starting June 18, you can visit your local library or bookmobile and sign up. It's free! When you sign up, you receive a cool poster, a set of stickers, and an activity book for logging your summer reading. Then you set a reading goal for the summer. You can choose to read eight books, or to read for ten hours, before August 20th. Every participant who meets that goal receives a great prize donated

by Cape Breton merchants. It's simple!

You'll also be invited to a Craft Day and a Games Day at your nearest library branch, where we'll be doing activities related to this year's theme:



"Splash!" You can read any library books (that includes listening to audio books), but if you like our watery theme, your library's staff can show you some splashy titles.

Where can you read? Well ... practically anywhere! Take a book to the beach, or hang out in a hammock with a great read. Find a patch of shade or climb your favorite tree and let a book take you far, far away. A book can be a great summer friend when your friends are away. And books can help you explore the secrets of summer. Whatever you're interested in finding out about, your library has a book for you.

If you want to find out more about the Summer Reading Program, phone your nearest library branch, "like" CBRL on

Facebook or visit us online at www.cbri.ca, or . You can also check out the national Summer Reading Club online at www.td-club-td.ca, for book ideas, games, puzzles, stories, and links to great "splashy" websites.



The key to summer reading is, "you can read anywhere!"

Kids...you try and you try!



C'mon mom, we're hungry here!



Oh great, worms again!

Saoghal na Gàidhlig...

The Gaelic way of living in the world

Ann a' Baile Eòin, Eilean Mhanainn—neo mar a sgrìobhas Gàidheil an eilein e, "Ellan Vannin"—rinn mi seasamh bho chionn ghoirid ri taobh nan ceithir chuirean de staidhrichean talmhainn air an còmh-dachadh le feur far am bi an Tynwald, Pàrlamaid Mhanainn, a' tighinn cruinn meadhon an t-samhraidh gach bliadhna agus far an téid na laghan ùra a' leughadh a-mach anns a' Ghàidhlig agus anns a' Bheurla. 'S e a th' anns an Tynwald a' Phàrlamaid leanailteach as sine 's an t-saoghal, 's còrr is mìle bliadhna bhon deach a cur air bhonn aig an àm a thòisich na Lochlannaich a' dèanamh suidheachaidh air an eilean.

Thar a' rathaid mu choinneimh an Tynwald, tha sgoil bheag 'na seasamh; 's e "Bunscoil Ghaelgagh" (Bunsgoil na Gàidhlig) a th' innte, an aon sgoil 's an t-saoghal anns a bheil na leasain uile air an teagasg ann a' Gàidhlig Mhanainn agus far an urrainn dhan chlainn a' chàin 'ionnsachadh gu fileanta. Ann a' 1999, chaidh "Shesaght Ny Paarantyn" (Comann nam Pàrant) a chruthachadh leis a' rùn gum biodh bunsgoil bogaidh ann. 'S an aon bhliadhna, chuir iad iarrtas a-staigh do Roinn Foghlam Eilean Mhanainn. Chaidh a' sgoil 'fhosgladh 's an t-Sultain 2001, le aon chlas agus 9 sgoilearan—an toiseach a' faighinn àite ann a' sgoil am Baile Dhùbhlaigh; 's an Fhaoilteach 2003, rinn iad gluasad gu seann sgoil a bhiodh aca fhéin ann a' Baile Eòin; agus an diugh, tha 65 sgoilear innte, aoisean eadar ceithir is aon bhliadhna deug.

Bha cuireadh aig a' ghrunnaidh againn tadhal air a' sgoil agus suidhe a-staigh air dà chlas. Abair thusa clann laghach is modhail! Chòrd Clas Saidheans (mu ìre 4) rium gu sònraichte—uile gu léir 's a' Ghàidhlig agus a' chlainn a' freagairt ceisdean an tìdeir gu sgairteil 's gu fileanta. Agus, a chàirdean—bha bratach ìomhaigh na Gàidhlig bho Albainn Nuaidh air a' bhall' aca!

Nuair a thèid a' chlainn seo dhan àrd-sgoil ann a' Peel, bidh cothrom aca a dhol air adhart gu teisteanas 'fhaighinn ann a' Gàidhlig Mhanainn, mar ann a' cùrsaichean eile na h-àrd-sgoile. Anns a' chunntas-sluaigh mu dheireadh (2006), chaidh fhoillseachadh gu robh 1,689 air an eilean dha b' urrainn a' Ghàidhlig a bhruidhinn, a leughadh, agus a sgrìobhadh. Dhen 84,000 duine a tha a' fuireachd ann, tha mu leth dhiùbh air tighinn a dh'fhuireachd bho thaobh a-muigh an eilein.

Nach lìonmhor an cumhachd a th' aig pàrantan—agus sine-phàrantan!--nuair a thèid iad le chèile gus buannachd 'fhaighinn dhan chlàinn aca?

Recently in the town of St. John, Isle of Man, I stood beside four tiers of grass-covered earth where the Tynwald, Parliament of Man, meets every midsummer to read aloud the new laws in both Manx Gaelic and English. The Tyndale is the oldest continuous parliament in the world, in place for more than a thousand years from the time of the Viking settlements on the island.

Across the road from the Tyndale stands a little school; it's the "Bunscoil Ghaelgagh", the Manx Gaelic elementary school where all classes are delivered in Gaelic and children are enabled to come to fluency in the language. In 1999, a Parents' Association was formed specifically to lobby for a Gaelic Immersion School. The same year they petitioned the Isle of Man Department of Education for such a school; in September 2001, the school opened with one class and 9 students, first finding a place in another school in the capital, Douglas. In January 2003, the students found a more permanent home in the old St. John's School, symbolically located opposite the Tyndale mound. Today 65 students, aged four to eleven, attend the school.

My group had an invitation to visit the school and to sit in on two classes. What lovely, well-mannered children! I especially enjoyed the science class (about Grade 4)—all in Gaelic, with the children answering the teacher's questions with spirit and fluency. And moreover—the Nova Scotia Gaelic flag was flying bravely on the wall!

When these children go to the High School in Peel, they will have opportunity to continue to study and acquire their secondary school credentials in Manx Gaelic as with other subjects. The last census (2006) revealed that 1,689 on the island could speak, read and write Gaelic. Of the 84,000 inhabitants, about 50% have come to live there from outside Man.

Moral of my story: Isn't it great the power that parents—and grandparents!—have when they band together to win advantage and benefit for their children?

Note: Manx Gaelic sounds, and is, very like Scottish Gaelic and can be understood by someone who speaks Sc. Gaelic. The spelling, based on English orthography, gives it an exotic written appearance!

The Gaelic Way of Living in the World is written by Catriona Parsons and sponsored by...



Office of Gaelic Affairs
Oifis Iomairtean na Gàidhlig

Photo Day & Workshop

DO YOU HAVE A DIGITAL CAMERA THAT YOU AREN'T SURE HOW TO USE?

Want to learn how to attach photos to an e-mail?

Do you have photos that you would like scanned and saved on your computer or put on a CD?

Would you like to share your photos (prints or digital copies) and have them included in a photo collection that can be shown at Alderwood as part of a photo presentation?

Come and join us on June 20th from 9:30 to 11 am at Alderwood, 89 Alderwood Lane, for a Photo Day when we'll have a Photo Workshop & Photo Slideshow

This Workshop is open to seniors in Baddeck and surrounding communities and residents of Alderwood as well.

For more information or to pre-register, phone 295-2644, ext. 226

Sponsored by Alderwood's Positive Aging Fund