



The Eric Walters School Library Summer Lending Challenge Findings from the Research

Set us free!

CANADIAN SCHOOL LIBRARIES



School is out for the summer, and your books should be too!

A special offer from best-selling Canadian author **Eric Walters**

In partnership with:

- CAISCAIP
- The Canadian Children's Book Centre
- CSL

With generous support from:

- ORCA BOOK PUBLISHERS

WE NEED YOU!

Please contribute to CSL's research about summer programs offered by school libraries across Canada!

If you run a summer book lending program, a summer book club, maker club or any program designed to engage students over the summer, we want to hear from you!

Connect to the Canadian School Libraries Summer Reading Research Survey



CSL Journal Focus

The Challenge

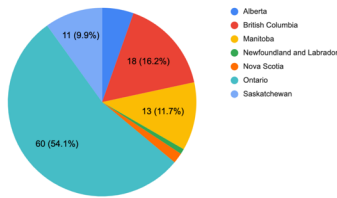
The Research

The Results

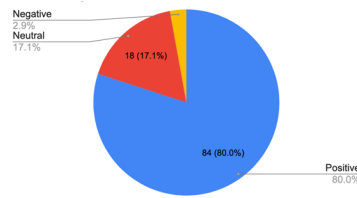
Can summer lending programs in Canada's school libraries be successful, and if so, what factors would contribute to that success? What would be the benefits of implementing summer lending in Canada's school libraries?

111 Schools
4365 Students
28,042 Books

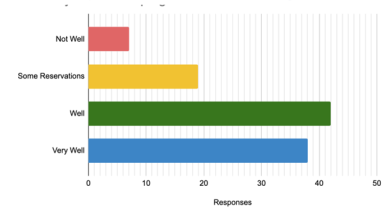
School Location



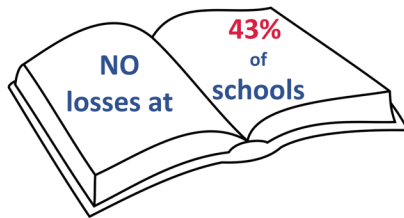
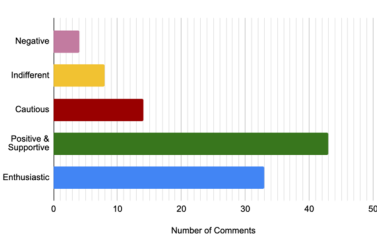
Student Response



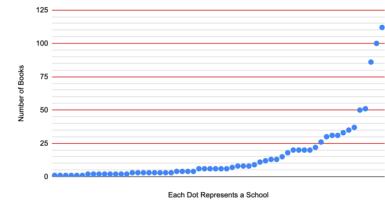
How do you think the program went?



Stakeholder Response



Books Not Returned



43% of schools reported no losses. Graph represents losses in the other 57% of schools.

Access

- Access to books is the key factor in developing strong readers
- Summer lending puts books into the hands of students all year long
- Many students have barriers to accessing books over the summer, including barriers to accessing the public library
- Summer lending is a cost-effective way of addressing the summer reading slump

Choice

- The more choice students have in reading materials the more they read
- Freedom of choice is a key factor in summer lending
- Students loved extended time to read favourite books and series, as well as new choices
- Even students with books at home appreciated the richness of choices from the school library

Trust

- The fear of book losses that discourages schools from lending over the summer is unfounded
- Most schools experienced no loss or minimal loss
- The cost of a few lost books is worth the benefits to students
- Students want our trust, learn from being trusted and appreciate being trusted

School library summer lending is a viable and cost-effective way to address the summer reading slump, extending reading opportunities for the full year, building a reading community, getting more out of school library collections, building responsibility and trust, and making reading a yearlong habit.

Recommendations for School Library Professionals

- Share this research and its benefits
- Invest in promotion and start early
- Ensure access, choice and trust
- Collect data and share with school community
- Streamline procedures and increase lending limits
- Collaborate with public libraries

Read the full study from **Canadian School Libraries: bit.ly/summerlending**

Canadian School Libraries (CSL) is a non-profit charitable organization dedicated to professional research and development in the field of the school library learning commons in Canada. CSL connects school library practitioners and educators across Canada in the collaborative pursuit of delivering exemplary practices reflective of current professional school library learning commons standards.



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