



# Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge

*The Challenge encourages children and students to read a set number of books over the year and record their efforts online. Since the Challenge first began in 2005, more than 3.5 million students have read over 54 million books.*

The Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge is **now open**, and Courtenay Gardens is excited to be participating. The PRC application offers a range of exciting features including:

- access to a library catalogue (including book images and blurbs)
- a modern user-friendly interface
- rewarding students with badges as challenge milestones are achieved
- the option for students to mark books as a favourite, give them a star rating or complete a book review

The Challenge is open to all Victorian children from birth to Year 10 in recognition of the importance of reading for literacy development. It is not a competition; but a personal challenge for children to read a set number of books by 2 September 2022.

Children from Prep to Year 2 are encouraged to read or 'experience' 30 books with their parents and teachers. Children from Year 3 to Year 10 are challenged to read 15 books.

For your child to participate, simply read a book either together or independently and log into your account to add your book. All students have been given usernames and passwords to log and review their books. See the attached information with helpful hints on logging in and adding books.

All children who meet the Challenge will receive a certificate of achievement signed by the Victorian Premier and former Premiers.

For more information about the Victorian Premiers' Reading Challenge, visit:

<https://www.vic.gov.au/premiers-reading-challenge>

# Happy Reading!

# Helpful Hints when logging into the Premier's Reading Challenge

## Logging in with a Challenge passcode

Your teacher will give you a Challenge username and passcode. Keep them in a safe place.

If you lose or forget your Challenge passcode, ask your Challenge coordinator, or class teacher to generate a new one for you.

1. Go to the [Challenge application](#).
2. Select the School/Student button.
3. Select the VPRC login option.
4. Enter your username and password.
5. Select Login.

## Viewing your dashboard

The dashboard is your main workspace as you progress through the Challenge.

At the top of the dashboard are gemstone badges. These are grey when you start your Challenge. They change to green as you progress through the Challenge.

Below the badges is a green bar. This shows you how many days are left until the end of the Challenge.

There are also two progress wheels that show:

- what your Challenge target is
- how many Challenge or Choice books you have finished or had verified.

Your reading list shows the books you have added and finished reading.

As you add more books to your reading list, the application will learn the kinds of books you like to read. It will recommend other books by:

- genre
- author
- series
- subject.

Books other students at your school and across Victoria are reading appear on the Trending books list.

The side menu lets you:

- see your Profile Details and add an avatar
- see all the book reviews you have written
- search for books you would like to add to your reading list.

A new feature for 2021 is the tab 'Previous Challenge', if you completed the challenge in 2020 your book data is available along with a digital copy of your certificate.

## Adding books to your reading list

If you see a book on the Recommended books or Trending book lists you want to read, select the +Add book button below the book.

You can also search the catalogue for a book you want to add.

1. Select Search Books in the side menu.
2. Enter the book's name, author, series name or ISBN number in the search field.
3. Select the Search button.
4. Find the book you want from the search results and select the book title. This will open the book details.

5. Select the +Add book button.

The book will appear in your reading list on your dashboard.

If you cannot find the book:

Doing an advanced search will improve your search results if you cannot find the book you want.

1. Select the Advanced Search link. This will bring up more specific search fields. You can search by:
  - author
  - title
  - genre – e.g. mystery and suspense
  - series name
  - year level
  - ISBN
  - media type – e.g. audiobook
2. Enter the search terms you want and select Search.
3. Select Refine your results for extra options.

Before you start a new search, select the Clear All button. This will clear the data fields you were searching on before.

If you still cannot find the challenge book you want to add, speak to your Challenge coordinator or class teacher. If they approve, they'll be able to add a placeholder book to your reading list. You can still count the book towards your Challenge book target.

If you still cannot find the choice book you want, there are now 30 'VPRC Choice book' entries you can select from.

1. Go to the student's dashboard.
2. Select the Search books tab.
3. Enter 'VPRC choice book' in the search field.
4. Select on the book title of one of the results. This will open the book details.

Select the +Add book button

## Removing a book from your reading list.

To remove a book from your reading list

1. Click the book image. A message will appear asking you to confirm you want to remove the book.
2. Select Yes, remove.

## Star ratings, book reviews and favourites

When you have finished reading a book, select the book's Finish button from your reading list on the dashboard. A book review screen will open, and you can:

- Give the book a star rating – 5 stars is the highest rating; 1 star is the lowest rating.
- Write a book review – up to a maximum of 500 characters.
- Mark the book as a favourite – you can add more than one book as a favourite.

Complete any details you want to add and select Finish book.

The Challenge coordinator at your school will verify finished books. This will not happen right away.

If you submit a book review, it will be sent to your Challenge coordinator for approval. Reviews are not published until they have been reviewed. Published reviews will only show your school name and year level.