Event 1: Vivid Vocabulary - 50 points

To complete this event, you'll need to do the following:

1. **Find a word that is unfamiliar to you** in a book that you are reading **OR** any text you have at home (could be anything... newspaper, cookbook, brochure, instruction manual etc)

2. Create a ***visually interesting*** mini-poster (no bigger than A4) which highlights this word and what it means.

Suggestions of things you *may like* to include:

- Definition of the word
- Where you found the word
- Etymology/Word Origin details
- A drawing
- An example of the word in a sentence
- Some synonyms and antonyms (words that mean the same thing / words that mean the opposite)

How does vocabulary building support literacy development?

*Words and their meanings are the building blocks of literacy development. They're the **key to children's comprehension of stories and information books**. Children who acquire a substantial vocabulary are often able to think more deeply, express themselves better, and actually learn new things more quickly. (www.scholastic.com)*

Event 2: Follow the Instructions! - 100 points

To complete this event, you need to do the following:

1. Find a task that requires you to read (and follow) a list of instructions. This could be anything, but some ideas include:
- Cooking or baking using a recipe
- Constructing something from Lego (or similar)
- Origami
- Build something
- Write something
- Draw something
- Learn the rules of (and play) a new game

The options are endless...

How does this activity build literacy skills?

Learning to closely read (and follow) instructions is a vital life skill. Being able to produce something physical, or learn a new skill, just by reading step-by-step instructions is very exciting. It is also important to be able to pinpoint where a step may have been missed or misunderstood when something doesn't go to plan!

2. Take a photo or a screenshot of the INSTRUCTIONS you followed *as well as* a photo of your finished product or an explanation of what you learned or did (if there wasn't a physical product at the end)

3. Reflect on whether you achieved the desired outcome (Did it work? - great! Did it not work? - think what went wrong and where. Backtrack through the instructions and see if you missed something or made an error)

Event 3: Family Photo - 100 points

To complete this event, you will need to do the following:

Have somebody take a photo of you and at least one other member of your family reading together.

Try and be creative with the setting!

How can families support literacy development?

Children learn about the importance of reading as they watch family members use reading and writing for everyday purposes. Reading for pleasure, sharing a story with your child, using a recipe or reading street signs teaches them that reading is a useful skill in today's world. Reading with your child at home will help your child in all areas of school.

If your family would rather not submit a photo, **you can draw the scene instead.**

Event 4: disCOVER - 100 points

To complete this challenge, you will need to do the following:

1. Choose one of your favourite books (can be fiction or non-fiction)

2. Think carefully about how the COVER of that book matches the story within.

3. Imagine you were in charge of designing a NEW cover for this book.
    How would you change it? How would it match the story in a different way?

How does this activity build literacy skills?

To complete this task, students need to have a strong understanding of the text and its characters. Thinking about the story and trying to match elements of it to a new cover design requires students to visualise and make deeper connections with the text.

4. Draw the design of the new cover (or design one using a digital program)

5. Take a photo or a screenshot of your design, ready to submit. You may like to include the original cover in the photo too.

6. Middle and Senior School students only: write or type a brief paragraph to explain the new cover and how it matches the story.

Event 5: Rave Review - 150 points

To complete this event, you will need to do the following:

1. Choose a book you have read or are currently reading.

2. Write a review for the book that you could share with other students your age

OR create a video version of a book review and have some fun with it!

How does this activity build literacy skills?

Writing a book review is a chance for students to examine and critically think about literature in a more complex way than just following the story and understanding its plot. It also enables them to focus on key details, as well as reflect and form opinions of their own – all valuable life skills.

Junior school students could include (perhaps with some help from an adult):
- Title, author and illustrator (if there is one)
- What genre the story is
- A few sentences to explain what the story is about
- Some details about the main characters
- What they liked/disliked about the story
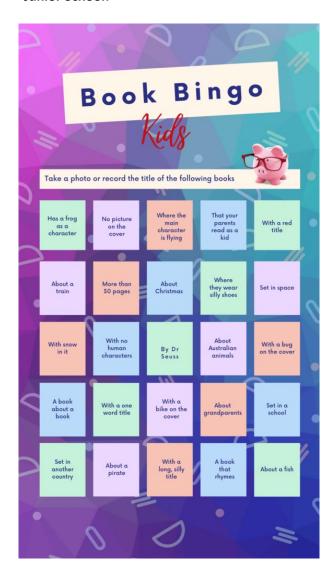- Whether they would recommend the story to others.

Preps and Grade 1s could just draw a picture of their story and write a sentence or two about why they like it and what their favourite part of the story is.

This link may be helpful and give Middle and Senior School students some ideas
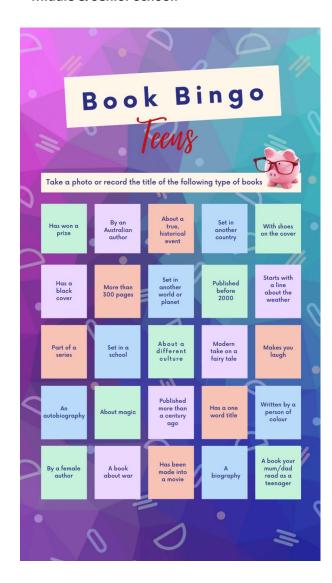https://www.getlitt.co/blog/how-to-write-a-book-review-for-kids/

Event 6: Book Bingo - 100 points

Junior School: **Middle & Senior School:**

Credit: fundraisingmums.com.au

Take a photo or note down the title and author of the book that you find to match each square. Give the square a tick if you have also read the book you mention or photograph.

Event 7: Character Building - 50 points

To complete this event, you will need to do the following:

1. Find a character in a text that reminds you of yourself.

2. Describe this character in detail and include the title and author of the novel/text they are from.

How does this activity build literacy skills?

Making text-to-self connections is a very important part of reading. Making such connections helps students make sense of what they are reading, retain the information better and engage more with the text itself.

3. Explain what aspects of that character's personality, actions or appearance remind you of yourself.

4. **Optional**: draw the character.

Event 8: Twisted Tale - 150 points

To complete this event, you will need to do the following:

Junior School students:

Listen to and watch this read-aloud of Babette Cole's storybook: 'Princess Smartypants.'

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Hl6jIUz0e4o

Think about (and talk with an adult) how this book goes against the 'rules' of traditional fairy tales.

Try to come up with an idea for a story that is a twist on a fairy tale that you know.

Write the story (or a few sentences about what the plot will be) and draw a picture to match.

Middle and Senior Students:

Watch the clip to learn about the *Twisted Tale* series based on famous Disney movies. All of these books are written on the premise of a 'what if?' question.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jyVpNAXL-fY

Come up with your own 'what if' for a popular fairy tale or movie.

Top complete the event, state the what if question and write a brief outline of what the plot would be, or write the opening of the story itself.
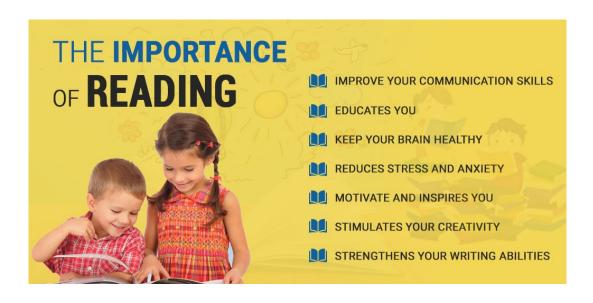
Event 9: Fact Finder – 50 points

To complete this event, you need to do the following:

1. Find a NON-FICTION book or text that interests you.

2. Write or type 3 - 5 new facts you learned from reading that book in your own words.

3. Try to surprise the judges with facts they won't already know!

How does this activity build literacy skills?

Nonfiction text helps students develop background knowledge, which in turn assists them as they encounter more difficult reading throughout their school years.
Nonfiction can also help students learn to read text features not often found in works of fiction, including headings, graphs, and charts.

THE **IMPORTANCE**
OF **READING**

- IMPROVE YOUR COMMUNICATION SKILLS
- EDUCATES YOU
- KEEP YOUR BRAIN HEALTHY
- REDUCES STRESS AND ANXIETY
- MOTIVATE AND INSPIRES YOU
- STIMULATES YOUR CREATIVITY
- STRENGTHENS YOUR WRITING ABILITIES

Event 10: Minute Marathon - 150 points

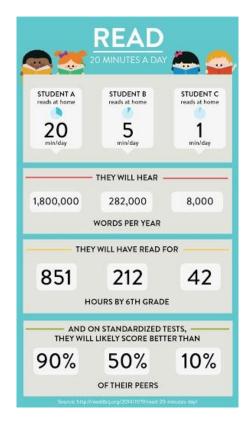The final event in a Decathlon is the 1500m race.

To complete this event, you will need to do the following:

Junior School:

1. Aim to complete 15:00 minutes reading most days of the week for the next 3 weeks.

2. Log your 'minutes' (with the help of an adult). You can include the time you spend reading independently, as well as any time you spend having somebody read to/with you.

3. All minutes count, and you can still be awarded points for this event, even if you miss some days along the way!

Middle/Senior School:

1. Aim to complete 1500 minutes of reading over the next 3 weeks. (that's 25 hours!)

2. Log your 'minutes' by recording the times you read each day. Any reading that you do for your classes at school counts towards the tally, as well as reading you do at home. You will need to have a parent or guardian sign off your hours.

3. All minutes count and you can still be awarded points for this event if you don't make it all the way to 1500 minutes!

HOW TO ENTER:

Only one entry per student is allowed, so please complete all of the events you would like to, before submitting.

YOU DO NOT HAVE TO COMPLETE ALL OF THE EVENTS TO ENTER 😊

There is no minimum requirement; we encourage students to choose their events according to what interests them. Of course, the more you do the better, but there is no requirement to do them all.

Once you have completed the event or events you have chosen, please attach photos of your work, links to google docs, Word files etc to one email and send to: reading.challenge@bmg.vic.edu.au in ONE email.

Junior School students may wish to use the template response booklet to help them organise their work.

**You will also need to submit an entry form (one per student entry), which you can find here: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSdmD3tJMRFt0MDOyyb5W69UvtsMavPoSlQLKV29msGmHB7GCg/viewform?usp=sf_link

Entries must be received by Thursday 3rd September.

There are multiple prizes on offer: individual, family and Tutor Group.

The judges' decisions are final. All winners will be announced during our Literacy Week celebrations in Week 8 this term.

Happy reading and good luck everybody 😊