



# Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System Profile

Survey Results and Community Implications

## REPORT INFORMATION

Topic: Summer Reading  
Programs: See full list on page 2  
Date Range: None

## BUFFALO & ERIE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM PROFILE SURVEY WORK

Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System Profile conducted surveys to program participants to collect data and insights about how their summer reading services and programs are supporting community needs. Buffalo & Erie County Public Library System Profile surveyed patrons using the Project Outcome Summer Reading Teen/Child Survey, which measures the impact of services designed to provide continuous reading and learning opportunities for children and teens between school breaks to limit learning gaps. A total of **154** survey responses were collected.

### Results

A total of **154** survey responses were collected. Of the percentage of children or teens surveyed who either **agreed or strongly agreed** that they benefited from the service or program:

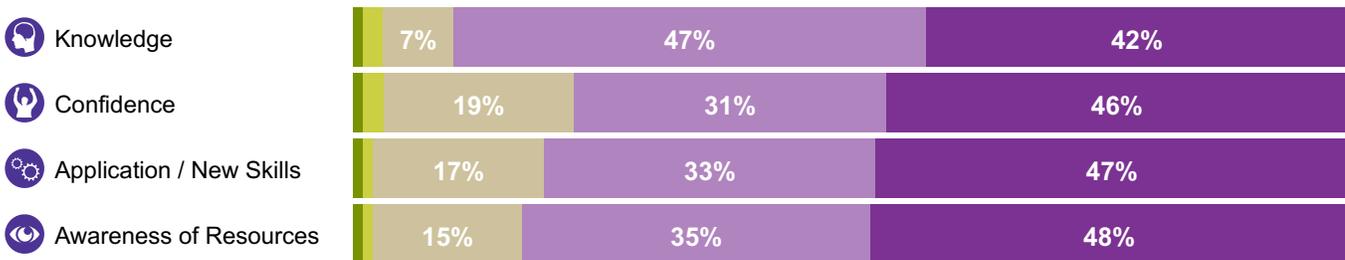
**89%** learned something new from what they read or experienced

**80%** read more often

**77%** enjoy reading more

**83%** want to use the library more often

The full results of the survey(s) are shown below. (Note that due to rounding, percentages may not add up to 100%)



SCORING: Strongly Disagree Disagree Neither Agree Strongly Agree

### Selected Criteria Average

### Summer Reading Topic Averages

	Group	Group	National	Total
Knowledge	4.3	4.3	4.2	4.2
Confidence	4.2	4.2	4.3	4.3
Application / New Skills	4.2	4.2	4.2	4.2
Awareness of Resources	4.3	4.3	4.4	4.4

AVERAGES: Ranges from 1.0 (Strongly Disagree) to 5.0 (Strongly Agree)

Survey topic averages represent all data under the survey topic and type and are based on the library location (e.g. United States, Canada). Selected criteria average represents data under any additional criteria applied to the report, such as date range, program or survey name.

A total of **154** survey responses were collected across **15** surveys. The list of programs surveyed are shown in the table below.

<b>Program Name</b>	<b>Survey Name</b>	<b>Attendance</b>	<b>Response Rate</b>
ALD - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	ALD - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
ANG - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	ANG - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
AUD/CFD/EGG/WIL - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	AUD/CFD/EGG/WIL - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
BOS - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	BOS - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
CEN/City - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	CEN/City - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
CLA - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	CLA - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
COL - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	COL - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 06/06/2019	0	N/A
CON - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	CON - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
EAU - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	EAU - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
EDN - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	EDN - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
ELM - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	ELM - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
GRI - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	GRI - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
HAM/LSH - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	HAM/LSH - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
JBR/REI - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/6/2019	JBR/REI - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
KNM/KNL - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 7/22/2019	KNM/KNL - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
LCW - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	LCW - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
LNC - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	LNC - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
MAR - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	MAR - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
NCO - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	NCO - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
NST - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	NST - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
OPK - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	OPK - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
TON - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	TON - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A
WSE - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen - 6/7/2019	WSE - Summer Reading 2019 - Teen	0	N/A

### Additional Survey Information

The library also asked the following questions:

1. What did you like most about the program/service?
2. What could the library do to help you continue to learn more?



## Additional Survey Information

The library also asked the following questions:

3. Do you have a library card?

**Yes: 78% | No: 16% | Don't know: 5%**

4. On average, how often do you visit the library?

**Daily: 5% | Weekly: 51% | Monthly: 25% | Less than once a month: 14% | Never: 3%**

5. On a scale of 1-10, with 10 being the most likely, how likely is it that you would recommend this program to a friend or colleague?

**1: 0% | 2: 0% | 3: 3% | 4: 1% | 5: 5% | 6: 1% | 7: 8% | 8: 10% | 9: 16% | 10: 49%**



## Overview

Wherever public libraries are working, possibility lives. People who work in public libraries know that library services open new opportunities for anyone who enters – putting people on the path to literacy, technological know-how, or a better job. Libraries see evidence of this every day – what they are often missing is the data to support it. Measuring outcome data helps libraries demonstrate the good they are doing and the value their impact is having in the community. For example, the Project Outcome: Year in Review 2016 Annual Report sites that nearly 80% of library users surveyed report that library programs and services have had some kind of positive impact on their lives in the last year, with a majority of patrons reporting that the educational aspect of these programs and services is what they like most. And these patron benefits are in high demand. Patrons most commonly suggested improvement for the library is new, more, or more frequent classes and programs.<sup>i</sup>

## About the Surveys

The Project Outcome surveys were developed by the Public Library Association's Performance Measurement Task Force, which is comprised of a diverse group of public and state library leaders, consultants, data researchers and analysts. The surveys are designed to help libraries measure the outcomes of programs and services and the impact they have on patrons. The results are intended to show a direction of change, not rigorous statistical proof of change. To learn more about Project Outcome, visit [www.projectoutcome.org](http://www.projectoutcome.org) (<https://www.projectoutcome.org>).

## Implications for Community Impact

Summer reading programs are an essential public library service that benefits a range of patrons from children, teens and adults. Public libraries intend summer reading programs to be engaging and fun while providing structure that supports ongoing learning opportunities for adults and protects against literacy backsliding for children out of school.

- Summer reading programs are particularly important for children transitioning from "learning to read" to "reading to learn" education levels. According to a three-year study by Dominican University's Graduate School of Library and Information Studies, students who participate in their local library's summer reading program significantly improve their reading skills.<sup>ii</sup>
- Children who participate in summer reading programs end up ahead of those who don't. The Lexile Framework provides a way to match a reader with an appropriate text within their reading level. Research shows that there is a 52 Lexile point gain for children who participate in summer reading programs.<sup>iii</sup> Summer reading programs reduce summer learning loss. Instead of losing knowledge and skills during the summer months, kids who attend summer reading programs actually show gains.
- Summer reading programs improve more than reading skills. In the Dominican University study, teachers report that children who participate in summer reading programs return to school with a more positive attitude about reading and higher level of confidence in the classroom, read beyond what is required, and perceive reading as important.<sup>iv</sup>
- Most people in the United States view public libraries as an integral part of the education system by providing resources to everyone, while also being advocates of digital and information literacy. A recent report produced by the Pew Research Institute found that those over the age of 15 feel that public libraries have an important role in fulfilling the educational needs of the community they serve. Specifically, 85% of the surveyed population feel that public libraries need to coordinate with schools in literacy programs and resources provided to children. In addition, 78% feel libraries adequately encourage literacy and an enthusiasm for reading.<sup>v</sup>



## SOURCES

<sup>i</sup>Project Outcome. "Project Outcome: A Year in Review 2016 Annual Report," Accessed March 23, 2017.

<https://www.projectoutcome.org/annual-report> (<https://www.projectoutcome.org/annual-report>)

<sup>ii</sup>Susan Roman, Deborah T. Carran and Carole D. Fiore. "Public Library Summer Reading Programs Close the Reading Gap," (San Rafael: Dominican University Graduate School of Library & Information Science, 2010). Accessed March 30, 2017.

<https://www.oregon.gov/osl/LD/youthsvcs/srp.certificates/dominicanstudy.pdf>

(<https://www.oregon.gov/osl/LD/youthsvcs/srp.certificates/dominicanstudy.pdf>)

<sup>iii</sup>[www.lexile.com](http://www.lexile.com)

<sup>iv</sup>Roman, Carragan, and Fiore. "Public Library Summer Reading Programs"

<sup>v</sup>John B. Horrigan, Lee Rainie, and Dana Page. "Libraries at the crossroads." Pew Research Center (2015). Accessed October 23, 2015.

<http://www.pewinternet.org/files/2015/09/2015-09-15librariesFINAL.pdf> ([http://www.pewinternet.org/files/2015/09/2015-09-](http://www.pewinternet.org/files/2015/09/2015-09-15librariesFINAL.pdf)

[15librariesFINAL.pdf](http://www.pewinternet.org/files/2015/09/2015-09-15librariesFINAL.pdf))



## Summer Reading 2019 - Teen Open-Ended Responses

### What could the library do to help you continue to learn more?

Keep doing this

Have information I wouldn't be able to find online

Read more about new things

Continue Battle of the Books

Recommend good books

Recommending good books

The library helps me get more books to read

I don't know

More books

More opportunities to volunteer

Provide more community activities

How to work in groups

really nothing

More books in our age group

Have a somewhat better selection of books/media.

Create more programs like this

IDK

I don't know

Nothing

Easier to find books

Idk

Nothing

Nothing

I don't know

?

Gimme books I guess

I don't know

?

nothing

Keep the art club

I dunno

Have more educational books

I don't know

More sessions

3D print mo' minis!!

nothing

I don't know

IDK

?

More competitions

IDK

It's good the way it is

Yes

Fun but educational things. We need more of it.

Lending me books

Do fun games

It was awesome

books

books

More cookies

More games

read

read more

Continue with the battle of the books, this was really fun

have a book of the week or something

Have more programs

?

get more councils

Another hour

As many programs as possible for older kids. And maybe recommending good books to read

You could check out books and learn about something different

More copies of materials

keep getting more books

keep doing this

I have no idea

the library could find more educational books

Have more events like this

get more items

Do more escape rooms!

more n-fiction

I don't know

More activities in the summer

It would be interesting if there were more activities with a bigger age range

I'd enjoy having more things to do with the kids who come to the events

More reading programs

More programs with reading competitions

Don't close!!

Read more

More books for Battle of the Books

Recording Room

Provide more activities for family to include all age groups - year round

I don't know

Get more books

?

IDK

Host more events like this

More classes

Continue with teen finance

Art, more school

More science programs

More teen programs  
Another class  
Offer more books on engineering  
More hot glue or better way to cut popsicle sticks  
Have a competition of who can read the most books  
We could make whatever we wanted  
?  
Read fines down all year  
Flash cards  
More books  
More books  
Give me books  
Fix the touch screen  
Library pets  
1) Not going out of business  
Buy cat books, cats roam the library  
Everything it is currently  
Continue to do this newsletter  
keep doing what's scheduled  
Yes  
Free money  
Free food  
?  
Noting, it's already great  
Have more battle of the books  
IDK  
I don't know I like it how it is.  
Give me books  
IDK  
books  
Read books  
I am not sure

### **What did you like most about the program/service?**

Snacks  
Snacks  
Speed round  
Snacks  
Snacks  
Snacks  
I liked the speed round  
Reading to remember the question  
Answering questions about books  
Making slime  
Slime

Teamwork, cooperation & fun  
being with a animal  
Cat  
Just helping people/kids and watching them have fun  
I'm able to help kids.  
Friends  
Answering questions  
"Thunder" Round  
Our shirts we decorated  
The books  
The food and drink  
The food  
The book  
The books  
Pizza  
Socializing  
Meeting new people  
Pizza  
Reading  
Talking about books  
Pizza  
art  
It was fun  
Drawing  
It was hilarious  
Art  
I'm surrounded by others with the same passion as me  
How much everyone else enjoyed the story we wove together  
RPG  
RPG  
Food RPG  
RPG Club!  
The speed practice round  
The lightning round  
Questions  
The snacks and hanging out with friends  
The competition & shirts  
The books  
Hanging out with friends  
Making the video  
Editing the film  
Hanging out w/ friends

Yes  
Everything  
The shirt  
Everything  
Painting  
The shirt  
It was about space.  
Making Galaxy shirts  
Paint  
Games  
Video games  
Smash brawl  
Games  
rocks  
everything  
Working in a group  
I loved getting to talk about books with other people.  
The Pals TM  
Pizza  
Talking with friends  
Painting rocks  
Wit  
It was competitive  
Getting to have fun  
The fact that even if you got a question wrong, it was just a learning point  
answering questions  
Mock battle  
all of it was fun  
when questions were asked  
The search for the book with the right call number  
It was fun  
It was fun using teamwork  
Non fiction  
It was tie dying  
Setting up  
I liked that we can bring our t-shirts home  
I enjoyed doing crafts with the kids  
How I learn to interact with people  
Having fun  
Everything  
Outside, fun activity, good teamwork  
Characters

Character game  
Battle Books  
This quiz  
The kind of books they chose  
Books  
Reading the books  
The thing we discussed  
Free food. Also, the books  
Learning practical things  
Great learning class  
Very informative. Amazing for the future  
Qu's  
Money stuff  
Using the computers  
CAD  
Learning how to use fushion 360  
Learning CAD basics  
Freedom  
Figuring out that I am a good drawer  
Giving  
The wheel of books  
Being a judge  
Games/Having Fun  
Games  
Playing 5 corners  
5 corners  
Answering questions  
Tie snacks  
Reading  
1) Showing up. 2) Snacks  
Showing up and snacks  
Yes  
It was fun and cool  
The librarians were really nice  
I made friends  
I made lots of friends  
I made friends  
I got to interact with friends  
It was competitive but fun  
Friends  
Snacks  
It was fun.

Snacks

IDK

food

Food & the questions

Battle of the Books