



10 minutes a day

The Reading Hour on Saturday, August 25th is both a focal point for the National Year of Reading for all ages and also our call to action for families – “share a book with your child for 10 minutes a day, an hour a week”.

Margaret Allen, chair of the National Year of Reading founders and State Librarian of WA, explained, “The Reading Hour itself is for everyone and there will be activities for all age groups, but there will be a special message for families.

“The phrase ‘10 minutes a day, an hour a week’ is our ‘slip, slop, slap’. It’s the take away message that we hope will become the accepted norm.” Margaret said.

“We know it’s not always possible for parents to share a book at bedtime with their children, but if they can manage 10 minutes most nights, their child will have the best chance of becoming a good reader, with all the social and educational benefits that brings.

Most of our brain development happens between birth and three years of age, so it’s not enough to assume that children will learn to read when they get to school. Parents need to share stories and rhymes right from day one – and a good way of finding out

more is to join storytimes, rhymetimes, baby bounce, and toddler sessions at your local library.”

We have some wonderful key partners for The Reading Hour, including Dymocks, The Walt Disney Company and Dymocks Children’s Charities. Together, these three partners have exciting plans for the lead up to the big day on August 25th.

In addition, Scholastic Group is promoting The Reading Hour through its search for reading superheroes (scholastic.com.au/minisites/readingsuperhero). MS Readathon will be running a special 60 minutes for MS event on August 24th, and Kumon (au.kumonglobal.com) are organising Read Together groups in public libraries for students and families from multicultural backgrounds.

The Reading Hour is nominally 6pm to 7pm on Saturday, August 25th, but events will be happening all day, to avoid or coincide with important sporting fixtures and venue opening hours, and to accommodate the different time zones. What are you planning in your library?

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LIS WRAP



Information for the nation

Rose Holley, Manager of Trove and the Australian Newspapers Mass Digitisation Program at the National Library, has won the 2012 Jean Arnot Memorial Fellowship. Her winning essay was titled *Harnessing The Cognitive Surplus Of The Nation: New Opportunities For Libraries In A Time Of Change*. Rose was presented with her award by the Governor of New South Wales, Her Excellency Professor Marie Bashir at New South Wales Parliament in May. To read Rose’s winning entry, go to her blog at rose-holley.blogspot.com.au/2012/05/libraries-harnessing-cognitive-surplus.html

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