

You can find book recommendations at the OUTI Web Library outi.finna.fi or at the Library Route website ouka.fi/en/library-route-joy-reading

KISAMA, the resource library for word art, can be found on the website of the Oulu Culture Centre for Children and Youth.

The Ready – Set – Read reading challenge is intended to get everyone into better reading shape.

Any reader, no matter their starting point, is welcome to join the challenge and start working on their reading fitness. There are many ways to enjoy literature: you can pick up a printed book, listen to an audiobook, or read something online.

The Ready – Set – Read reading challenges encourage reading and promote literacy among Oulu residents. We aim to be the most literate European Capital of Culture in 2026.

The Ready – Set – Read reading challenge family comprises four different reading challenges: The Ready – Set – Read reading challenge for adults, the reading challenge for pupils, the reading challenge for early childhood education and care and families, as well as the reading challenge for workplaces.



[@ouka.fi/lukevinkaupunni](https://ouka.fi/lukevinkaupunni)

#Oulu2026 #LukevinKaupunni #OuluLukee



Oulu2026
European Capital
of Culture



THE EUROPEAN
READING CAPITAL
OF CULTURE

READY – SET – READ!

Reading challenge for families,
early childhood education,
and pre-primary education



My name:

Group name:

Unit:

Reading stories together is an important activity for all ages. Stories and fairy tales allow you to safely experience many kinds of emotions. Stories feed a child's imagination and allow them to develop empathy. A child who is read to develops a wide vocabulary. But above all, reading is fun! The world is full of enchanting literature, and you can find books to suit any taste, as long as you have the courage to activate your reading engine. The library is there for you to borrow good books for quality reading time together!

Activate your reading muscles by doing the following exercises. You can do them in any order you want. After finishing an exercise, tick the box.

**Enjoy reading as you work
yourself into better
reading shape!**

EQUIPMENT

- ☐ 1. We started this reading challenge.
- ☐ 2. I have / my family or group has a library card.
- ☐ 3. I have chosen a book we will read next.

BASIC FITNESS

- ☐ 4. I think about what kinds of things the cover of the book we picked brings to my mind.
- ☐ 5. I found a place where it is comfortable for me to read.
- ☐ 6. We finished the first book!

GROUP TRAINING

- ☐ 7. We went to the library or the mobile library together and said we are doing a reading challenge.
- ☐ 8. We read together as a group.
- ☐ 9. I took a stuffed toy or a pet under my arm when listening to the story.

PICKING UP THE PACE

- ☐ 10. We built ourselves a reading tent and read there.
- ☐ 11. I made a nice bookmark for myself.
- ☐ 12. We read on many days in a row.

THE FINAL STRETCHES

- ☐ 13. We read a story before going to bed.
- ☐ 14. We listened to an audiobook together.
- ☐ 15. After reading, we talked about what kinds of feelings reading awoke in us.

