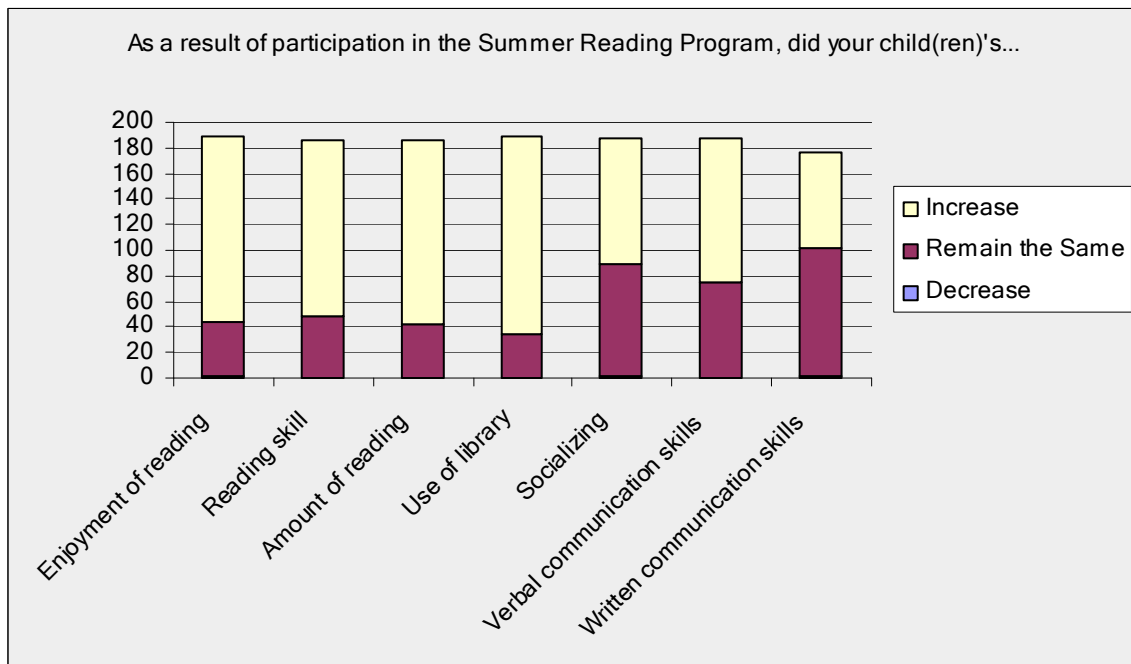
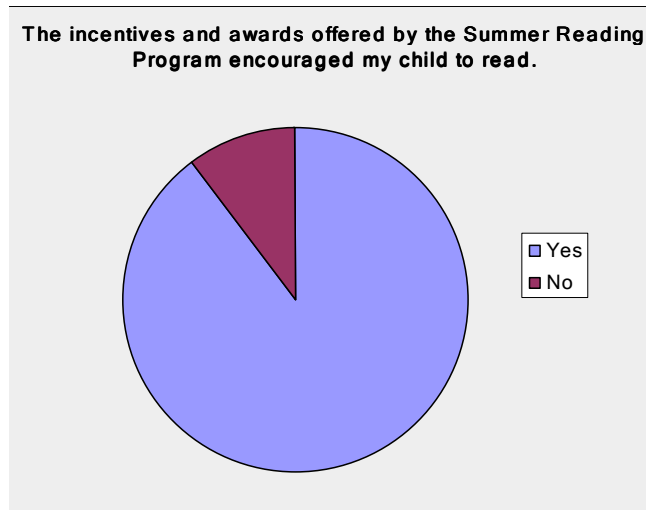


## 2010 SRP Parent Survey Results

Thanks for your help with the pilot SRP parent survey! Here are the very positive results:

- There were 187 surveys completed from 13 libraries
- 92% of respondents have library cards
- A full **98%** will continue to bring their children to the library this fall!
- 81% first heard about the SRP at their local library; 10% through their children's school; 8% through word of mouth; 6% on their library's website; and 4% each through the media or a flyer
- 58% of respondents were repeat SRP customers at their current library; 35% were first time SRP participants; and 6% had participated in an SRP at a different library previously



**And just a few of the dozens of wonderful comments from parents:**

- Our family's favorite part of the program were the great staff members who engage the children in the activities and make reading an enjoyable experience.
- I think the socialization was their favorite part. There are not many activities for children 8 and under going on in the community, so they were glad to be a part of something.
- I love that it has helped her to choose her words more carefully and develop such a broad vocabulary. We loved the program and look forward to next summer!
- The program helps reinforce the "reading is cool" idea.
- My children love reading and the librarians are so kind and welcoming. I would not be able to afford to keep up with the number of books my daughter reads without libraries. My son is a bit more reluctant to read on his own. This program gives him incentive to do some reading on his own.
- Having an outstanding educational outlet as an option is greatly appreciated and all the extracurricular events only enhanced the experience. Thank you.
- We read every night anyway, but it is nice to show our daughter how important reading is for everyone.
- The summer reading program has helped my children's love of books, social skills, confidence, and hands on skills with crafts. It also helped them learn better listening skills and communication. It has been very enjoyable for all of us. We would like to thank the library and all of the people that made this program available.
- We talked about real life/daily interactions we have had like in the stories.
- We liked the fact that it helped give our younger son the incentive to find books he enjoyed reading.
- My children enjoyed reading so much that when they finished their books they wanted to read more. They wanted to learn more about the books and library programs.
- My children's favorite part of the program was being able to explore the library and sit in the cubbies and read. They liked to discuss the stories with others who had a similar interest.
- Our favorite part of the program was finding new books to share together, sitting on the couch and her asking me to read more, more, more. The art programs always spark her creativity at home.
- My children attended a magic show they enjoyed very much. We ended up talking about how science (physics and chemistry) can help you to make magic. We got a few books about it.
- My children's favorite part of the program was the prizes--they already love to read but the recognition helps encourage them.
- The weekly events were my children's favorite part because they thought the shows and activities were really cool. They always looked for books related to that week's activity.

- My children's favorite part writing was down how many books they've read and showing the results to others. They were really proud of that.
- My children enjoyed the sheets where they wrote what they had read because they could actually see how much they done. Of course they also like the prizes.
- Our favorite part of the program were the great staff who engage the children in the activities and make reading an enjoyable experience.
- There were lots of family discussions that stemmed from the program--everything from plot summaries of Terry Goodkind novels to discussions of metaphor in *A Separate Peace*. It also spurred discussions with friends. The incentives of the program were more important when she was younger--but it's still gratifying to get that certificate! Summer allows so much more time for reading and listening.
- Reading books together gave us common ground for some discussions. My kids were excited to come to the library and see how many books they could read.
- We enjoy the program--forces me (Mom) to keep up the momentum of reading daily with the positive reinforcement of weekly prizes and the end of the program's main prize--bicycle. Please keep the program!
- The program continued to expand the sense that reading is done by everyone.
- The program brings us together to celebrate the love of reading (we read 4 books of Lemony Snicket together so far!).
- The program has made my husband bond more with my girls by reading books.
- The program keeps my kids' reading skills up each summer.
- As a mother of 4, I am so grateful for community events to help me encourage my children become award of this amazing world they live in. We loved the encouragement to read at home--it reinforced that which we already do. We enjoyed the special events at the library. And we looked forward to the prizes and party. We speak often of the books we read together--applying them to us. Thanks to all the awesome librarians.
- My children are at the age where they are learning to independently read and be responsible for their own books, logs and keeping track of all that. The program really helped us to get our stuff in order. The program also encouraged us to keep reading through the summer and not lose our course of reading!!! Thank you all for your hard work and support!!!
- We all look forward to library visits. The girls looked forward to getting new books and sometimes got several books on one subject and sometimes tried something different. It was fun for me to learn about the interests of my granddaughters through the summer program.
- It allowed us to come and be a family together and have fun this summer. Thank you so much!
- (in Spanish) We visit the library more often, the children watch less tv, we share reading (read together) more often, and my littlest boy in particular is getting very interested in books.
- The program provided an opportunity to join a diverse group of parents and children.

- The program is Fun, Free, and Educational. We enjoyed coming every week and being greeted by a happy, informative and helpful library staff at each library.
- We have begun reading more. Every week my 2 year old would ask when are we going to the library for more books? My child gets very excited to go to the library and at age 2 is already saying he loves to read.
- It gives me an incentive as a parent to get them to the library weekly as opposed to whenever I could squeeze it in. The reading program made me put going to the library a weekly priority. Because we were at the library more often we heard about arts and crafts programs going on and signed up for some of those too. My youngest (9) particularly loved those. Both my children became better at finding books in the stacks-my older son (11) also started exploring the young adult section. We got to know our children's librarians (wonderful people) much better. It encouraged my children, particularly the younger one, to read more-at least his 6 chapters per week.
- I have seen my son reading quietly in his room. He can't read yet, but he gets the concept. He has a lot more interest in reading and shows more interest in learning his letters. Thank you!
- The difference the program has made in our family is seeing how much our children learned and how much better they read than last year.
- My "non reader" felt encouraged and increased/challenged herself to read more difficult books. They love the library room--the staff was very nice and helpful.
- The children now know how the library works and this reminded our family of the great benefits our local libraries offer.
- This program showed us that reading is part of life. It's not necessarily a beginning and end. We read and read and read.
- My six year old son went from 1st grade reading skills to 3rd grade!
- We discussed each and every book. It led to more quality time.
- We would talk about places to visit after reading books on states, caverns, zoos and occupations. They have been going to the summer reading program for the past few years and I noticed they are more outgoing and not as shy as before. They love reading and being read to.
- The program made a HUGE difference. They have learned to use the library and behave at the library. They now pick out books and know where to try to find answers to questions. They are more open to ideas. They try to use the computer. But, what first drew them to the library were the reading programs. Their social skills also improved.
- My son loved to come to the library. He would ask to come even if there was no reading time.
- The program has helped my child socialize with other children and create an intense interest in reading books. Books and topics covered in the program led to art exercises and lessons.
- Reading science books prompted more looking around with more interest at things in our environment. She gets to read everything she wants with no regard to reading levels or

testing anxieties like when she's in school. She knows summer reading is for fun and she enjoys that!

- Both of my girls like to read already, but this motivates them to read SO much more. They love to make the weekly goals and get prizes at the end for completing the 12 hours.
- My son can read simple sentences by himself now and can understand English more than before.
- We talked about different topics, most of which were discussed in the books. These included: race, safety, manners, what our child wants to be when she grows up, etc. We learned that the library is an exciting place. Before, we would just show up at the library and read or check out a book. But, there are a lot of activities that the library offers. We would like to thank you for a great 2010 Summer Reading Program!
- Love it--thanks! The kids want me to make up a reading program for them at home now, so they can still do it!!
- We spent more time reading and less time watching TV--Yipee!! It sparked interest in new subjects too.
- My children both want to read each other's books--terrific. The program made them happy. Closer too.
- The program entertained my children in a way of encouraging them to read more.
- The program brings us to the library more, which means we see other members of the community that we otherwise wouldn't see. Also the programs offered are a MAJOR cultural contribution to our small rural town. We value being able to attend such events without driving long distances.
- My son would ask questions and I would tell him that we could find out the info at the library. He related info learned to his other daily activities as well. We look forward to this program in the summer because it is fun, educational, and FREE activities our family can enjoy. It encourages us to read more and work towards achieving the goals of the program. It offers the children a chance to socialize as well. WE LOVE the PROGRAM and hope it can continue in the future.
- It is amazing that so many people do not read, not just children. My son is only 3 and I am trying to instill in him the love I have always had for books and reading. I think that he realized that there are whole new adventures in every book and he looks forward to choosing new books every few weeks. We have always read before bedtime and now we are reading more during the day. He is in total love with the library and I hope we can participate in more programs like this in the future.
- When she goes to school this year she will want to learn to read and pay more attention.
- My kids learned the word "borrow" and that they could keep the books, take care of them and then give them back.
- The program encouraged me to read to my infant and to bring him to the library.
- We both enjoyed the Summer Reading Program. I, myself, participated in it and re-ignited a love-affair with reading that had dwindled over the past few years. I was excited to watch her reading habit develop like mine did when I was her age. We will definitely be participating in this every summer.

- My children read more and found out that reading can be fun. My oldest would play games at the library but would still come home with a book to read. He had a chance to meet other kids his age in a safe environment.

### **How can you use this information?**

This data strongly supports several national studies proving the positive impact of summer reading programs here in New Mexico. Sharing the information can help to:

- obtain cash and in-kind donations for your SRP
- obtain business sponsorships for your SRP
- get volunteer help for your SRP
- promote your SRP and library in general to your community to attract new patrons
- secure grants
- attract new community partnerships
- boost a library promotional campaign

