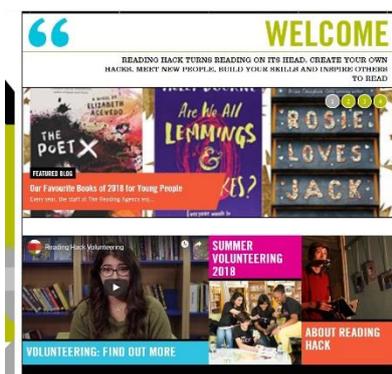


The Reading Hack Website: www.readinghack.org.uk



What is it?

Our website, www.readinghack.org.uk gives 13-24 year-olds a platform to share what they're reading, record their volunteering hours, find new ideas and get advice and support for taking their hacks to the next level.

www.readinghack.org.uk is designed for young people, by young people. It is peer-monitored and does not have any private chat facility, so it is very safe to use in schools, libraries or at home.

What does the Reading Hack website offer?

- Reading recommendations from other young people
- A place to share creative hack ideas
- New hacks based on skills or interests
- Somewhere for young people to log their volunteering hours
- A downloadable skills letter to support further education and job applications

Sharing the website with young people

Here are some of the ways you can share the website with young people:

- Tell young people about the website as part of volunteering training/induction
- Encourage young people to use the website for hack and activity inspiration
- Build the website into a timetabled library visit
- Share the website with young people as a resource for finding new books

Creating a Reading Hack profile

Encourage young people to create their own profile so they can keep a record of what they've read and which hacks they've taken part in.

1. Select **'Sign up/register'** in the top right corner of the homepage
2. Fill in the information fields and complete the short survey
3. Choose a name for your avatar
4. Remember your password for the next time you log in!

N.B. Users under the age of 16 will need to have an email address belonging to a parent or carer handy when signing up for the first time. In compliance with the latest data protection regulations, we will email the parent/carers to obtain their consent before completing the account registration.

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Joining a hack and logging volunteering hours

Young people can record how many hours they've spent doing a hack or volunteering. They need to create a profile and be logged in to do this.

1. Use the search function to find a hack (e.g. 'Summer Volunteering') and click **'Join'**
2. Scroll down to the activity log; add the number of hours that were spent on the hack and a comment about what happened
3. You could encourage a class or library group to join a local hack and use the idea themselves

Creating a hack

Young people can also add their own ideas to share with others. This is a good way of letting other groups know about an activity or event that was really successful, and that they might want to try themselves.

1. Select **'Hacks'** from the main menu, then **'Create a Hack Design'** from the dropdown menu
2. Share the different skills that young people can gain by taking part, such as leadership or creativity
3. Add the different interests that the activity involves, like social action, reading, creative writing and more



Downloading a skills letter

The skills letter outlines the different skills young people have gained, and how many hours they've spent taking part in Reading Hack activity. Skills letters can be used to support job, college or university applications, or as evidence for Duke of Edinburgh's Award or Arts Award.

1. Log in or create a profile
2. Select **'People'** then **'Profile'**
3. Click **'Activity'** to see all the hacks that have been completed, then choose **'Download Skills Letter'**
4. The skills letter will show how many hours the young person has contributed, and the different skills they gained from each hack