



10 cool facts about books and reading



1. Apparently, across the world, people read for an average of 6.5 hours every week. What a great way to spend your time!
2. On average, when you are reading a book, the letter 'e' is one in every eight of the letters that you read.
3. Have you ever been called a 'bookworm'? A bookworm is actually the larva of a wood-boring beetle that feeds on the paper and glue in the spine of books. Yuck!
4. Before paper and cardboard books were invented, scrolls were often used to record, store, share and read information. The scrolls were made of papyrus which came from the stem of a water plant.
5. The smallest book in the world is a copy of 'Old King Cole', held at the Welsh National Library. It measures 1mm x 1mm. A needle is used to turn the pages. Incredible!
6. Did you know that the first printed 'books' were covered in drawings, leather or even gold and did not have the title of the book or the author's name printed on the cover.
7. In the past, to prevent books from being stolen they were chained to the shelves in libraries!
8. Australians love reading. Every year (usually in August) we devote a whole week to celebrating books and awards are given to Australian authors whose books have been voted as the best.
9. According to the researchers from the Oxford English Dictionary, William Shakespeare is thought to have been responsible for more than 1600 new words in the English language.
10. Neighbours will never complain that your book is too loud!