



## "I READ A WIDER VARIETY OF BOOKS"



Name:  
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During lockdown I started a virtual book club with my friends Isabella, Felicity and Sophie (pictured below). Our mums are in a book club together.

We meet up on Houseparty, a group video platform, to chat all about books. The book club has helped me read a wider variety of books as we all make suggestions about what to read next. It is lots of fun and I love reading!



## HOW, WHAT, WHERE?



### How do we choose which books to read?

A rota is a good way to make sure everyone gets a chance to choose the book. Alternatively, you could provide a selection of books and ask everyone to vote for what they want to read next.



### What do we talk about?

Some questions are especially good for sparking discussion about a book. Try these: if you could give the book a different ending, what would it be? What do you think the main character looked like? What do you think will happen next?



### Can we meet online?

To help ensure social distancing, it's best to meet up online. With an adult's help, you can set up a video call between book club members. You can then take part from your cosiest reading corner or use book-themed backgrounds.

Want to dive into stories with friends and share your thoughts?

# Start a book club

The only thing better than reading a good book is reading it with others. In a book club, a group of people choose a book that everyone will read separately and then discuss together. "Reading doesn't only have to be something you enjoy by yourself – it's a lot of fun to talk about what you're reading with friends," says Katherine Woodfine, a contributor to *The Week Junior* and author of our Book of the Week, *Villains in Venice*.

There are no rules to starting a book club, and the plan might well change, depending on the group. It's good to think ahead about how you'd like the book club to run. Will you meet every week? Where will you hold meetings?

Think of eight to 12 others (people around your age) who you'd like to be part of your book club. Perhaps encourage your friends to

invite people whom they know well but you haven't met. A book club can help you make friends.

Having a theme can make the club feel more focused. You might want to specialise in fantasy stories or science fiction. A theme makes it easier to decide which books to read. "If you take it in turns

to choose the books you read," says Woodfine, "you might discover some great new books and authors too."

Finally, make sure you read the book before the meeting, and come prepared with questions to ask and things to talk about.

If you'd like some ideas for books to choose, head over to [theweekjunior.co.uk/summerofreading](https://theweekjunior.co.uk/summerofreading). We're challenging young people to read, rate and review books this summer holiday. All you have to do is pick some books, send us your reviews and you could win some fantastic prizes.



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- Get inspiration by visiting [clubs-kids.scholastic.co.uk](https://clubs-kids.scholastic.co.uk)
- Try contacting your favourite author on social media to see if they will answer your group's questions about a book.
- *The Week Junior's* Book Club has tips on what you could read.