

SILLY SQUAD

Summer Reading Challenge 2020

sillysquad.org.uk



Character Guide

This year's Summer Reading Challenge is a celebration of happiness, laughter and funny books.

The **Silly Squad** are an adventure loving team of animal friends who live in a colourful fun house. The Squad spend their days coming up with new ways to spread joy and have fun, from dressing up in silly costumes and trying out comedy props, to telling jokes and reading plenty of hilarious books and comics. The Silly Squad's arch-enemy, Brian the pony, is a total grump and is always scheming to spoil their plans. Will Brian discover that life is more fun when you get silly and get reading? (We think so!)

Children taking part in the Challenge using the printed materials will collect transformation stickers to add to a fold-out fun house poster. As they read books for the Challenge, their stickers will bring the fun house to life. Brian has broken the Silly Squad's laugh-o-meter device, which is used to measure happiness levels across the land. Children will move through the different rooms in the fun house, meeting members of the Silly Squad and collecting pieces of the laugh-o-meter as they go. If they make it all the way to Brian's Evil Lair in the attic, they can put the laugh-o-meter back together and complete the Challenge. [Download the Core Pack guide for more information on the poster and stickers]

Children taking part in the Challenge online will unlock activities and virtual reward badges as they work towards completing their personal reading goal. Children can sign up for a website profile which will allow them to rate and review their Challenge reads, collect rewards and access all areas of the site. The website will also host downloadable activity sheets, creative challenges, polls, videos and competitions to enjoy over the summer, all inspired by the Silly Squad and their favourite books.

Characters

The Silly Squad



Snook the penguin (Snŵc in Welsh)

Snook is the coolest member of the team. He's a fish-guzzling fiend who can't resist a funny **novel**!

Snook looks after the Comedy Closet at the fun house and the Silly Squad's amazing collection of fancy dress outfits, from rainbow capes and giant spotted trousers to princess dresses and carrot costumes. Any outfit can be a funny one if you've got the right attitude.

Izzie the octopus (Awen in Welsh)

Izzie can make up all kinds of wicked rhymes right off the top of her head (and she can juggle too!). She loves **poetry**.

Izzie is the boss of Slime Station, a giant room full of brightly coloured slime where fun house visitors can get active and go for a swim or jump into the tube slide.



Merry the giraffe (Sonia in Welsh)

Merry has a talent for telling tall tales and loves to relax with a spot of **non-fiction**.

Merry's favourite room in the fun house is the LOL Library, which is full of wonderful books just waiting for readers to discover them! Merry loves to chat and is great at recommending books that the rest of the Silly Squad and their friends will enjoy.

Lily the frog (Lili in Welsh)

Lily is the stand-up comic with perfect timing, never to be seen without her trusty **joke book**.

In the fun house Lily is the host at the Giggle Factory, where you'll often find her telling the most hilarious jokes! Everyone is welcome to hop on stage and share the things that make them laugh, from jokes to songs to funny stories and silly dances.



Bamboozle the panda (Bambwsl in Welsh)

Bamboozle is the clown of the bunch, and always has a trick or two up his furry sleeve! Book-wise, he's obsessed with **graphic novels and comics**.

Bamboozle runs the One Stop Prop Shop, which is filled from floor to ceiling with wacky items to make you chuckle, like flowers that squirt water, giant glasses with fake noses, and spinning bow ties. Bamboozle is very creative and likes to make crafts and new props from objects he finds around the fun house.

Friends

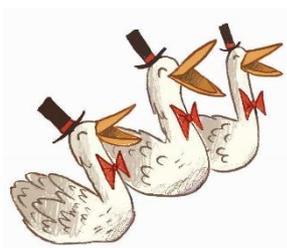
Look out for these friendly faces in the fun house!



Cher [L] and Shirley [R] the sheep



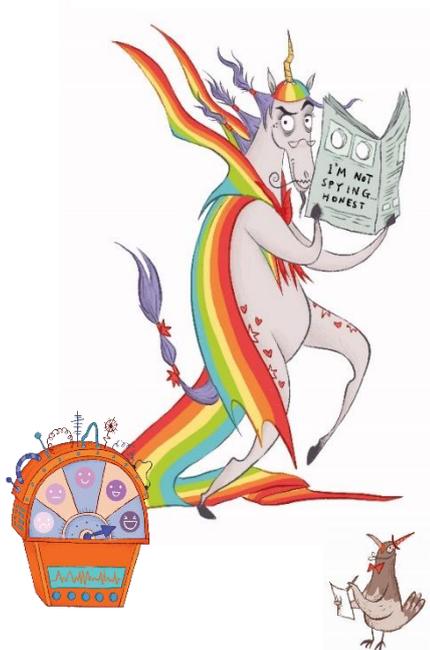
Mo [L] and Filbert [R] the platypuses



Glen, Gwen and Not-a-Hen the ducks

Foes

Watch out! Brian and his pigeon minions are trying to cause trouble in the fun house this summer...



Brian the pony (Breian in Welsh)

Brian is a total grump with no friends and no sense of humour. He's too busy plotting against the Silly Squad to read any books and hopes his unicorn costume will throw them off the scent. No one would suspect a unicorn of getting up to mischief, would they?

Brian lives in the fun house attic, which he has turned into his Evil Lair. This naughty pony uses a flock of pigeon minions to spy on the Silly Squad and spends his days thinking up ways to spoil their fun.

His chief minion and right-hand pigeon is called **Norman**. Brian could really do with reading a book or two and having a laugh this summer.