

School Membership Program

qatarreads.qa



Inspiring a nation to read بالقرءاءة تُثري الحضارة

School Membership Program

Dear educators,

Many of our fondest memories come from our schooldays. We developed our most essential habits and values in the classroom and the playground, meaning that education plays a pivotal role in human development. Uniting all our efforts on this front will reap major benefits.

Our aim with Qatar Reads is to create a joint reading experience shared by all students across Qatar. Through building a nationwide community of readers, students will be encouraged more than ever to share ideas with their peers. We will work on making texts ubiquitous, and ensure a free flow of thoughts and ideas across institutions. Reading at school is the duty of students, faculty, administrations, custodial staff, and parents alike. It takes a village!

We invite you to pledge your institution to this movement.

Qatar Reads



This document outlines a pledge to Qatar Reads to promote and reinforce a culture of reading and lifelong learning in Qatar.

The educational institution _____ (School Name) hereby agrees to uphold the criteria outlined in the School Membership Program from this day forward _____ (Date)

The School Membership Program aims to achieve the following:

- To create a network of schools all aligned with the Qatar Reads vision
- To dedicate a day of celebrating reading every year
- To take advantage of all opportunities that enable reading and motivate readers by involving all members of the academic institution, including but not limited to faculty, administration, custodial staff, parents, and students.
- Encouraging reading for leisure and reading as an extracurricular hobby
- Leading students to read in depth across a plethora of different subject and topics, providing them with research tools and expanding knowledge
- Collaborating on and participating in events that focus on reading whether school-wide, nation-wide, or hosted by Qatar Reads
- Setting a plan and selecting events for the academic year and submitting it to Qatar Reads

Every participating institution will receive a plaque commemorating its membership in the program

Participating institutions will be evaluated on an annual basis on how well they upheld the membership criteria and will be recognized accordingly.



The School Membership Program

Qatar Reads is an initiative launched by Qatar Foundation with the aim of raising awareness on the importance of reading and the benefit it reaps across all communities.

Through this initiative, we aim to strengthen the community of readers and seekers of knowledge throughout the State of Qatar and to enhance creativity and the ability to read and write. It is intended for all age groups and population groups residing in the State of Qatar.

Reading drives discovery, exchange, exploration, and transformation. Reading is a springboard for change and growth. Equipping our society with the habit of reading creates a pool of knowledge, broad and open minds, positive values, and a desire to make learning a constant of daily life.

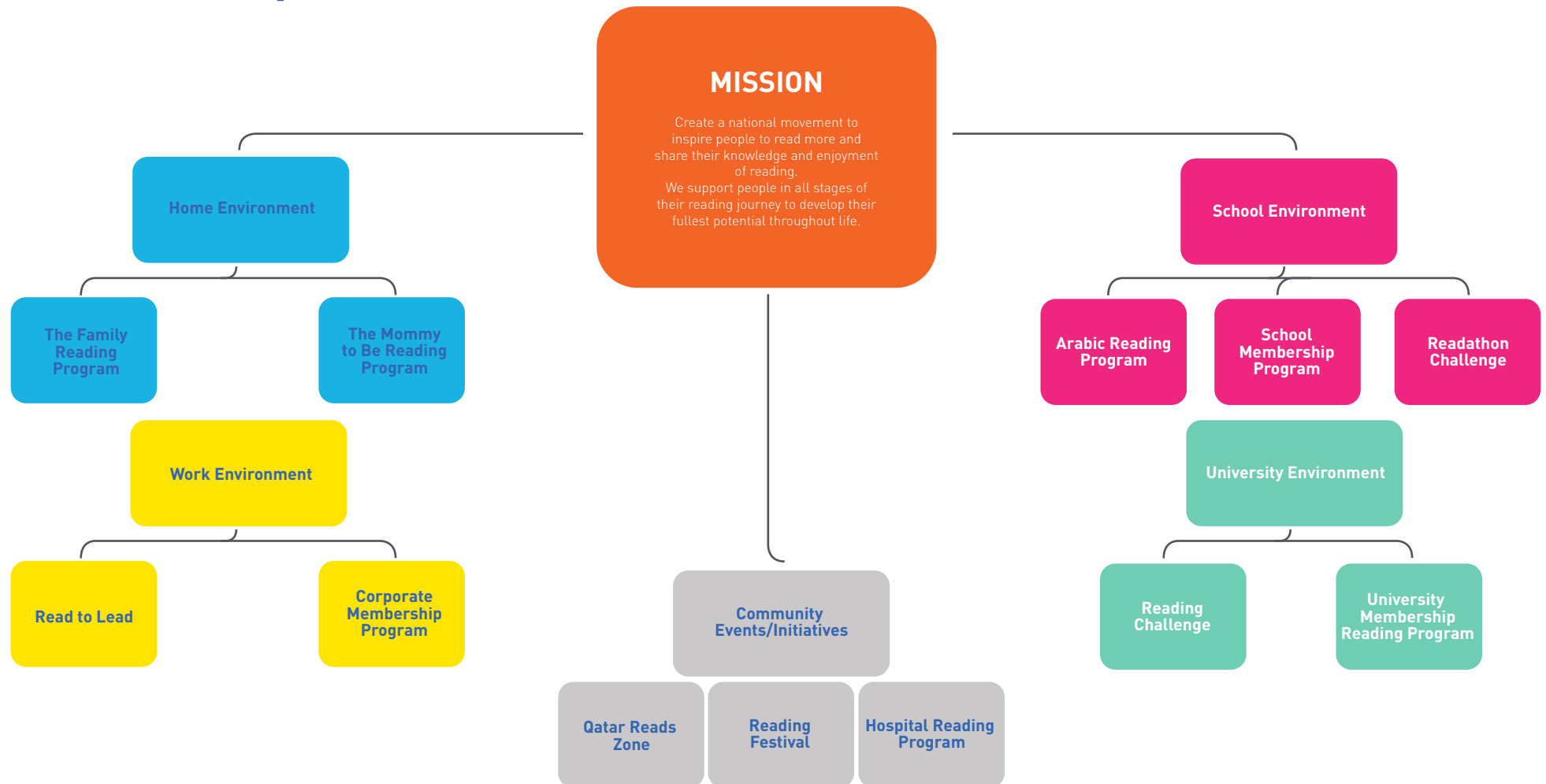
Reading is vital in a human, societal, and national development context as it is a:

- gateway to knowledge
- vehicle for social engagement
- catalyst for greater interest in science and research
- means of preserving and promoting Qatar's cultural heritage and the Arabic language

Through positive partnerships between institutions and individuals, Qatar Reads presents a range of different programs that are specifically designed to address challenges facing society, targeting different groups, and providing innovative solutions and fun interactive activities that change the misconception of reading being a chore.



The Map



Outline of Qatar Reads programs

Program overview:

- The School Membership Program is a flexible, unified program for schools. Schools must apply to the membership scheme and sign a pledge to carry out a set of reading-related activities in order to be awarded as a Qatar Reads affiliated institution.
- The program targets students, administrative staff, school employees, and parents by implementing a number of activities that suit each category.
- The program enables schools to create a series of reading-related events and activities for all grades and create a stimulating environment for reading and the love of knowledge. These include creating and monitoring extra-curricular activities, competitions, events, fairs, and programs both school-wide and nation-wide.
- The membership scheme also facilitates the ability to track readership levels in schools by collecting information on library usage, event headcount, and results of readathons.
- The school reviews the list of eligible activities (school level, class level, or competitions) and selects a set that is feasible for them for that academic year. They then identify the dates on which they aim to carry out that collection of activities. They may also submit their own original activities provided it is justified accordingly. After filling out the custom form and submitting it to Qatar Reads, they will be provided with the necessary support to carry out their selected activities in the form of the available resources (partner publishers, initiatives, authors, and more).
- Following each event, schools must also submit a completion report with photos and a description of the event's turnout and achievements.



Becoming a member institution:

- The school must first review the membership guide and all eligible activities, events, and competitions
- The school selects its preferred set of activations for the academic year and submits a form
- The school outlines a timeline of execution and highlights what resources it needs (collaterals, social media coverage, author links, workshops, etc)
- The school presents Qatar Reads with its plan and signs the membership agreement
- The school reports reading related figures per term (library usage, event headcounts, competition results, and event key indicators)
- Schools must select one focal point for all communications with Qatar Reads

Collaborating with Qatar Reads:

Qatar Reads acts as an umbrella that unifies and encompasses all the various efforts toward embedding a reading culture in Qatar. It facilitates relations between different entities that all strive to enable readers. Member schools will thus receive support with the following:

- Providing a clear, comprehensive plan and method
- A digital package of collaterals, printables, fliers, promotional materials, and designs that help with activity preparation and bond all schools with unified brand recognition. All materials are customizable and cobranded with the logo of the school as well as Qatar Reads
- Providing access to resources and communicating with partners in Qatar, whether publishing houses or community initiatives
- Documenting events and activities through media coverage
- Annual honoring of all the participants in this program in the annual festival of Qatar Reads

Eligible activities, events, and competitions:

Schools may select their preferred activities from the following options. It is up to the school to organize and carry out the event with Qatar Reads' support.





Activities and Events

Permanent Extracurriculars

Schoolwide Competitions

Activities and events: These can be done in the school during class time or on the playground. They include a range of events that allow students to interact, share reading experiences, and demonstrate creativity. Activities such as tasting parties for books, a character and a book, my favorite book, non-uniform days (come dressed as a character from a book), etc.

School competitions:

There are two types of competitions at the school level, those held autonomously by the institution and are very simple to implement, and those sponsored by Qatar Reads or external parties that will include multiple institutions across the nation.

Permanent extracurriculars: The school will set up a recurring after school activity that students can sign up for each year or semester. This includes grade-based book clubs with a teacher as the leader, reading committees, newspaper club, little authors club, and more.

The school also pledges to participate in Qatar Reads-hosted events such as but not limited to:

- The Reading Festival
- Spelling bees
- Readathons



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