

2017

Czech children and youth as readers (aged 6–19 years)

How do children spend their leisure time?



6–8 years



9–14 years



15–19 years

Top 3 daily activities

78%
Homework



63%
Homework



67%
Facebook and other social media



60%
Playing at home



46%
Watching TV



61%
Internet – searching, surfing



50%
Reading (at home) from the primer or other textbook



37%
Listening to music

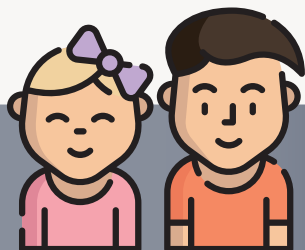


59%
Listening to music



60%
of children aged 6–8 years

attend sport/other after-school activities several times a week



Activities for children most appreciated by parents of children aged 6–8 years

Sports



54%

After-school activities



44%

Time spent with friends



37%

Painting, drawing



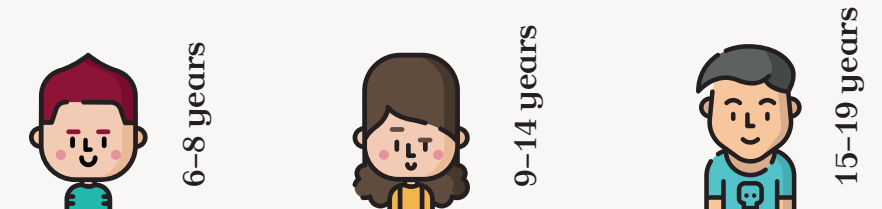
35%

Reading books / magazines



34%

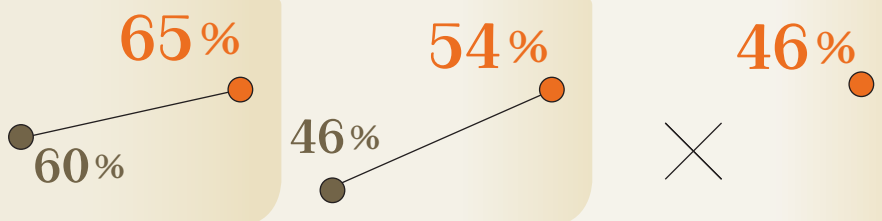
Relation to reading



Nowadays children enjoy reading more...*

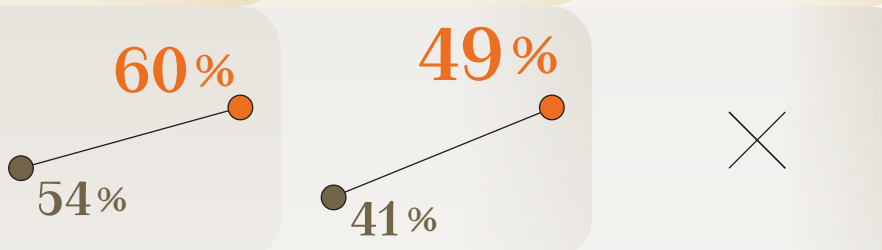
Comparing 2017 ● and 2013/2014 ●

*sum of "very enjoy" and "quite enjoy" choices



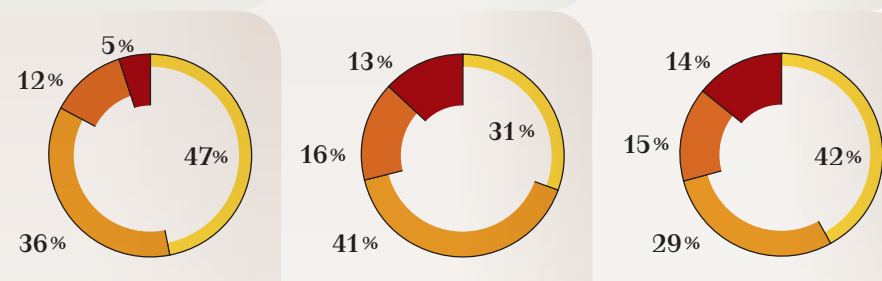
More children read books (apart from textbooks) several times a week than in the past

Comparing 2017 ● and 2013/2014 ●



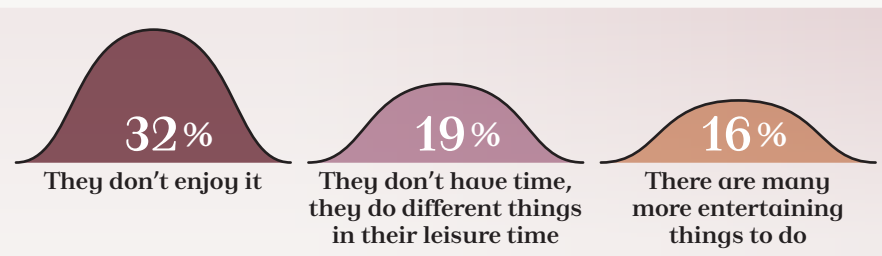
Number of books read in the past month:

● no book ● 1 book
● 2 books ● 3 and more books



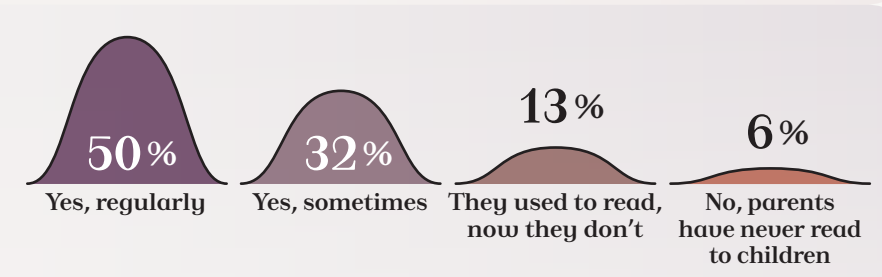
Why some children/youth (9-19 years) almost don't read at all?

Base: Children aged 9–19 years reading books once a month or less often.



Do parents read out loud to their children (aged 6 to 8 years)?

Base: Children aged 6–8 years



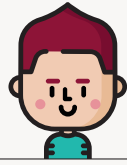
"I started to read before entering school, I had read Rychlé šípy already, which I enjoyed very much. Then I started to read more children's books, such as The Knickerbocker Gang. I used to read also Harry Potter a lot that came from my sister. Then The Witcher for example. My parents naturally also used to read to me, various fairy-tales."

boy 15–19 years

"I used to read a lot since the first to fifth grade in school, things like children's detective stories, then I started to do sports, I had a lot of trainings and I didn't have time so I quit reading and I also lost interest in it."

boy 9–14 years

Selection and ways of acquiring books



6-8 years

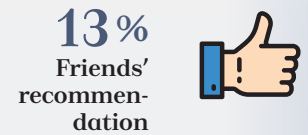
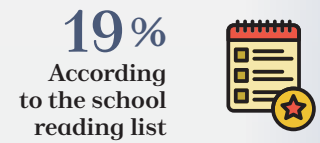
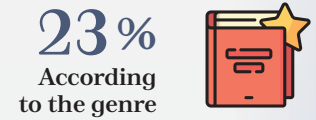
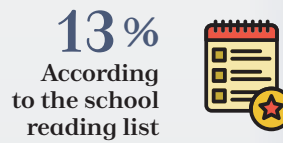
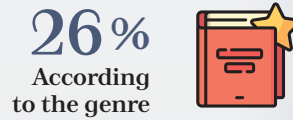
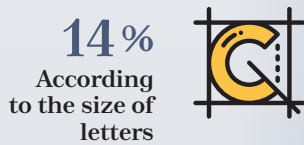


9-14 years

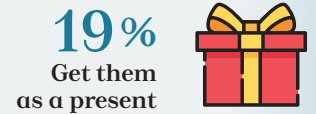
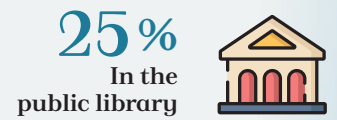
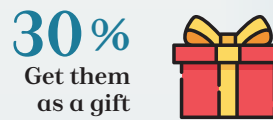
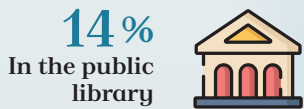
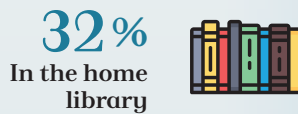


15-19 years

What is the most common way how children select books for reading?



Where do children get books for reading most often?



"I just choose a book by its cover, if there's a nice or adorable picture on it I take it, I don't even care what's inside."

girl 6-8 years

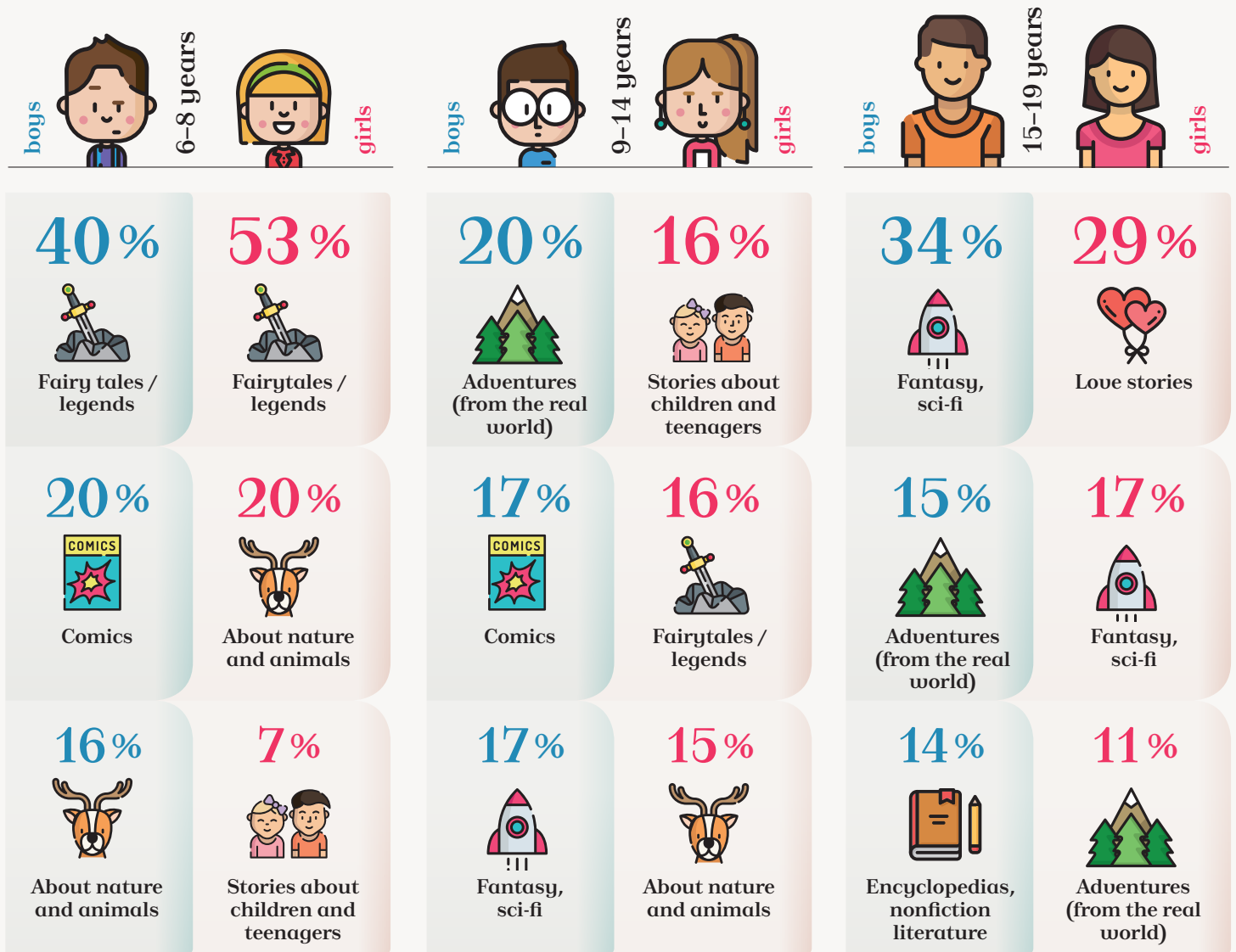
"My sister recommends me books a lot, or I choose them on my own, especially according to the genre, for example greek mythology or fantasy. When I started to read I liked encyclopedias and fairy-tales."

girl 9-14 years

"Sometimes I choose according to the recommendation or the Internet, I read reviews, sometimes the book cover catches my eye."

boy 15-19 years

What are the most favourite genres of boys and girls? *



Book titles which recently attracted youth and children's attention the most.



Fairy tales in general, Honzíkova cesta, Encyclopedias/Non fiction, Comics, Batman, Spiderman, Tales about animals, Čtyřlístek, O pejskovi a kočičce...

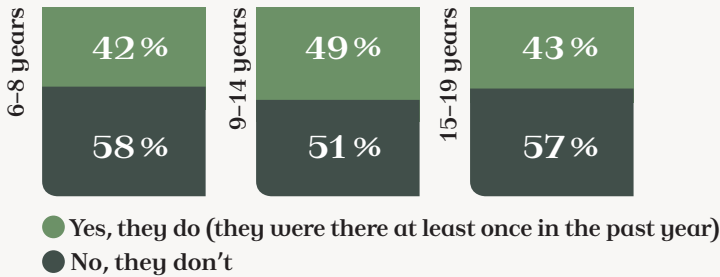
Diary of a Wimpy Kid, Harry Potter, Encyclopedias/Non fiction, Robinson Crusoe, Anička, The Dork Diaries

Harry Potter, Fifty Shades of Grey, The Witcher, Hunger Games, Encyclopedias/Non fiction, We Children from Bahnhof ZOO...

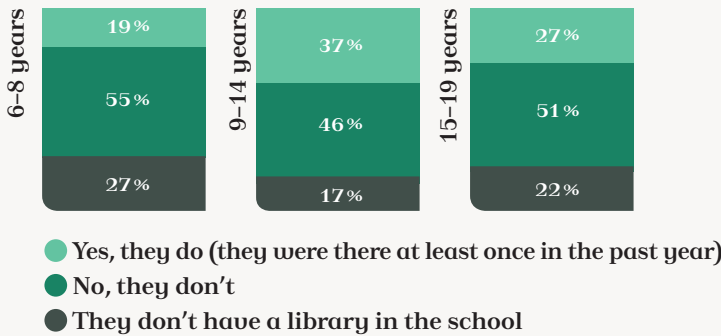
Base: children reading at least once in a quarter of a year. * Genres, which were selected by respondents as the first ones

Children and libraries

Do they go to the public library?



Do they go to the school library?



What is their most common activity in the public library?



Base: Children, who visit a public library.

What do they think about libraries?

parents of children aged 6-8 years ↓ youth aged 15-19 years



94% | 86%

They enable the access to resources and books, which children and youth don't have at home



84% | 68%

Library is an important educational institution



69% | 57%

They are the right place for studying



56% | 62%

Going to the library is not cool for children and youth nowadays



51% | 31%

They are an attractive place, where children and youth can spend their leisure time



19% | 40%

They are pointless in the time of the Internet

"About once a month, I borrow a book, return the book and borrow another one. There were times I almost didn't go to the library. Last year and the year before."

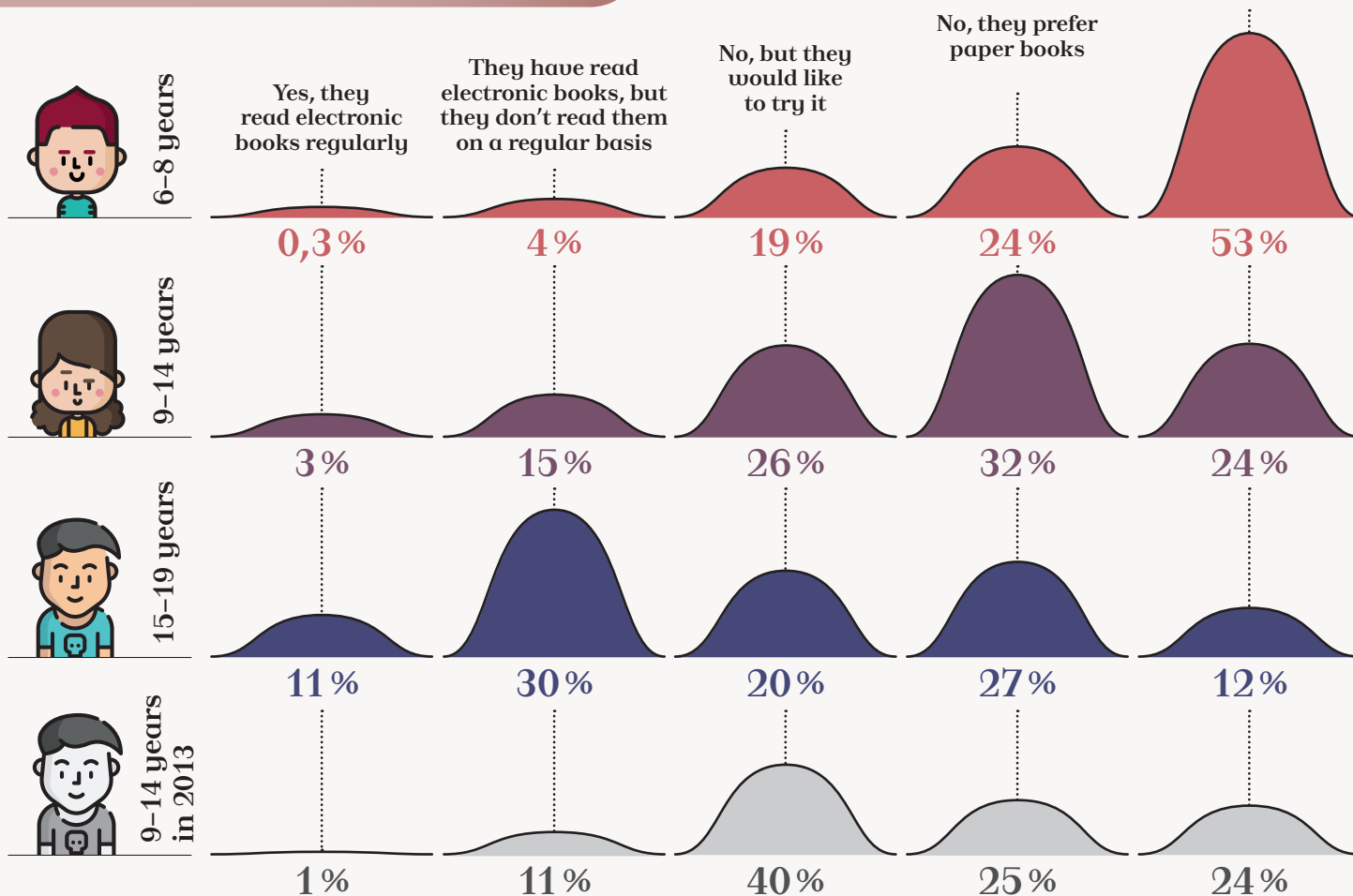
boy 9-14 years

"I borrow a lot of books, I don't use the Internet there, I used to read in the library sometimes or I went there to study. There was silence. I didn't borrow any CD for sure, neither the magazines. The atmosphere there was nice, I liked it there."

girl, 15-19 years

Reading electronic books

Do children / youth read books in the electronic form?



The most used device of children and youth for reading electronic books is mobile phone.



In 2013, there was 16 % of children/readers of electronic books declaring using mobile phones for reading electronic books, this number rose to 45 % in 2017.



Source: Survey of Czech children and youth as readers in 2017, National Library/Nielsen Admosphere, children/youth aged 6-19 years (children aged 6-8 years completed the questionnaire with the help of a parent), N=2300, F2F and 40 individual interviews, May-November 2017.



National Library of the Czech Republic



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