



# THE VIRGIN ISLANDS DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION

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### **FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

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## **TENTH ANNUAL GOVERNOR'S SUMMER READING CHALLENGE EXTENDED THROUGH OCTOBER 12**

ST. THOMAS, USVI -- The Virgin Islands Department of Education, in conjunction with the Office of the Governor, has extended the 10th Annual Governor's Summer Reading Challenge through Friday, October 12.

The annual Challenge, which encourages students in grades K-6 to read five or more books during the summer months, was slated to conclude on Friday, September 21, 2018. However, due to the staggered opening of the Territory's public schools, the deadline has been extended to afford all students the opportunity to fairly participate in the popular literacy event.

Each year, students in the Territory's public, private and parochial schools receive a Reading Challenge starter kit containing up to two books written and illustrated by Caribbean authors and illustrators, as well as tracking sheets. Students are instructed to visit their local public library to obtain paper and/or electronic books to complete the Challenge. Students keep track of the books they read on tracking sheets, which are turned in to teachers at the start of the new school year.

At the end of the Challenge, participating students are invited to a fun day hosted by the Office of the Governor and the Department of Education, which are planned for December 8 in St. Croix and December 15 in St. Thomas this year.

For more information on the 10th Annual Governor's Summer Reading Challenge, visit [www.readfive.org](http://www.readfive.org) or contact the Office of Public Relations at (340) 774-0100 ext. 8136.

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