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These search terms have been highlighted: **premier's reading challenge 2006**

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NSW Department of Education & Training

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2006 Premier's Reading Challenge the Biggest Ever

NSW State Plan Target S4: Increasing the proportion of students completing Year 12 or recognised vocational training from 82.7% to 90% by 2016

NSW Premier, Morris Iemma today congratulated the 260,600 students - from

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"This is something to celebrate in a world where computer games, television and the internet all compete for the interest of students."

To complete the **Premier's Reading Challenge**:

- Years 3 to 9 students were required to read 20 or more books, including at least 15 from lists of approved **Challenge** books;
- Kindergarten to Year 2 students were required to experience at least 40 books; and
- Younger children could read the books independently, have books read to them or read the book with help from parents, teachers, older brothers or sisters.

"Almost 120,000 students successfully completed the Premier's **Reading Challenge** this year, a 40 per cent increase over last year," Mr Iemma said.

"I am delighted that 80 secondary students have received gold certificates for completing the **Challenge** for four years running, and four children have completed all five years.."

"The **Reading Challenge** continues to play an important part in enhancing students' literacy skills from Kindergarten through to high school.

"I am extremely grateful to the classroom teachers, public librarians, parents and carers who have played such an integral role in encouraging young people to read and enjoy quality literature."

Popular books for Year 7-9 students this year include:

Harry Potter series - J K Rowling

The Rabbits - John Marsden

Popular books for Year 5-6 students this year include: