# A comics reading challenge for kids (free printable bingo)

Peabody blog · Reading · updated 2026-10-31

A 2026–27 comics reading challenge: a 25-square book bingo card, some squares ticked by your child's series checklists, a printable card and a certificate.

Peabody's comics reading challenge is a 25-square bingo card for the 2026–27 year. Each square is a kind of comic: a manga, one with no words at all, a whole series, one from about 100 years ago. Get five in a row, across, down or corner to corner, and print a certificate. It works on screen or on paper, with no account, and it is free through the end of 2026.

Paid school reading programmes run challenges like this with logins and class dashboards. We wanted one a family could start tonight, with nothing to sign up for and nothing sent anywhere.

## The 25 squares

Here is the card, row by row, the way it prints. The middle square is free: a comic you love.

- A manga: From the library · A book in a series: A funny one · No words at all: A comic you made · A whole series: 10 or more books · Book 1 of a new series: A scary-ish one
- A manga: A real-life one · A book in a series: Animals! · No words at all: Free: a comic you love · A whole series: Out in space · Book 1 of a new series: Read it aloud
- A manga: Someone read it to you · A book in a series: Right to left · No words at all: An old favourite · A whole series: From a Books like… page · Book 1 of a new series: A comic strip
- A manga: Half words, half pictures · A book in a series: 100 years old · No words at all: Out in 2026 or 2027 · A whole series: A friend's pick · Book 1 of a new series: Read outside

Some squares are about what a child reads. Others are about how: read aloud to someone, read to by someone, read outside, reread. Those count the same. A child who reads one favourite three times and reads it to a little brother has filled two squares.

## Squares that tick themselves

Fifteen squares tick themselves. When a child ticks a book on one of Peabody's series checklists, the card reads those ticks and fills in what fits. Tick a manga and "A manga" fills in; if it is printed right to left, "Right to left" does too. Tick the last book of a series and "A whole series" fills in. Tick a book from a series with ten or more books, and that square goes too.

The same goes for book 1 of a series, a funny one, animals, space, a scary-ish one, a real-life

one, a half-and-half book, a series from one of our Books like… pages, and a book out in 2026 or 2027. A book that isn't out yet never counts.

One square ticks from the Comic Studio: make a comic with anything in a panel, and "A comic you made" fills in.

The other nine the child taps: no words at all, from the library, read it aloud, someone read it to you, an old favourite, a comic strip, 100 years old, a friend's pick and read outside. A second tap takes the tick away.

## Kept on your device

The card reads the checklists but never changes them. The squares a child taps are kept in a small log on the device, called "Comics reading challenge". A grown-up can save it, open it or clear it like any other Peabody log. Nothing on the card is sent to us.

The card is for 2026–27. A new card next year gets its own name, so this year's taps stay where they are without filling in the new one.

## The paper card and the certificate

Rather use paper? The page prints a blank card. The child ticks or colours in each square as they go, the same 25 squares, the free one in the middle.

The certificate prints with a blank line for the name: "_____ finished a row!" The child writes their name on it with a pencil, along with the date. We never ask for a name on screen. On the device, the certificate also says which row was finished, for instance the top row or corner to corner.

## Where to find a comic for a square

- A manga, right to left: the manga shelf, and the how to read manga guide for the first try.
- A comic you made: the Comic Studio, or a printable comic template.
- 100 years old: the square asks for a comic from about 100 years ago. A librarian can point you to old newspaper strips.
- Every series you've started: My Shelf, which also prints a reading log.

The button reads the card aloud: how many squares are ticked, and which lines are done.

## Questions grown-ups ask

## How does the comics bingo card work?

It has 25 squares, with a free one in the middle. A child reads a comic that fits a square and ticks it. Five in a row, across, down or corner to corner, earns a printable certificate. Fifteen squares tick themselves from the child's series checklists and the Comic Studio.

## Does the reading challenge need an account?

No. The card works in the browser with no sign-in. The squares a child taps are kept on that device only, in a log a grown-up can save or clear.

## Does it have to be done on screen?

No. Print a blank card and colour in the squares by hand. The certificate prints from the same page, with a blank line for your child to write their name.

Peabody (peabody.kids) is free through the end of 2026. A few of the squares fit stories too: our library has books for every reader.

---

Free at peabody.kids/blog/comics-reading-challenge-for-kids