

A young girl with dark, curly hair is sitting and reading a book. She is wearing a white long-sleeved shirt with a ruffled collar. The background is a blurred library with bookshelves. A dark blue rectangular box with white text is overlaid on the left side of the image.

**Elevating readers  
with ebooks and  
audiobooks**

# Meet today's presenter!



**Jody Brookshire**

Account Executive  
OverDrive Education



**Gretchen Zaitzeff**

District Library Media Specialist  
Canyons School District

# We know that time spent reading positively impacts reading proficiency & achievement

## Long-term impact of reading:

Reading 30 minutes vs. 15 minutes per day leads to 12 million more vocabulary words learned over the course of a student's schooling.

Reading had a higher level of correlation to achievement than socioeconomic status, gender, family structure, or even time spent on homework (PISA)

**Source:** "The magic of 15 minutes: Reading practice and reading growth"

<https://www.renaissance.com/2018/01/23/blog-magic-15-minutes-reading-practice-reading-growth/>

# Access to fewer books = Decrease in literacy

**50%**

of students with access to more than 100 books at home scored "proficient" in reading<sup>1</sup>

**<15%**

of students with 0-10 books at home scored "proficient"<sup>1</sup>

- Reduced availability of texts equals **lower achievement** and a **higher likelihood of dropouts**
- U.S. Department of Education data shows that **13 million children** attend school in districts where circulation is **less than 10 books per student**<sup>2</sup>

1. National Assessment of Educational Progress (<https://nces.ed.gov/nationsreportcard/>)

2. Access to Reading Materials. (n.d.). U.S. Department of Education. Retrieved October 1, 2021, from <https://www2.ed.gov/datastory/bookaccess/index.html#intro>



# How can digital help close the access gap??

## Access:

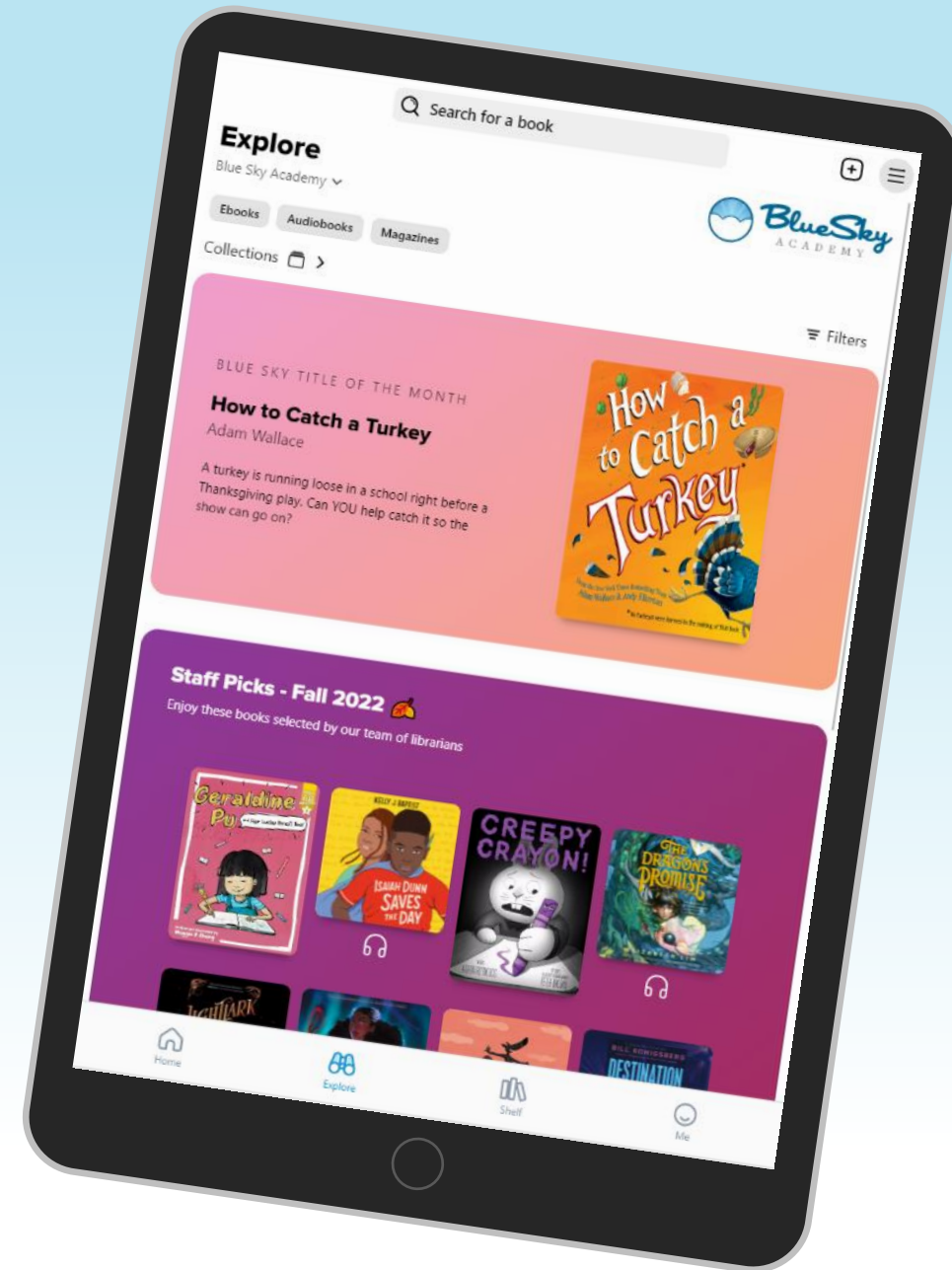
Anytime  
Anywhere  
Any device

## Build lifelong skills:

Deep, sustained digital reading  
Vocabulary development  
Notetaking skills

## Support all learners:

Emerging readers  
Struggling readers  
Multilingual readers  
Advanced readers

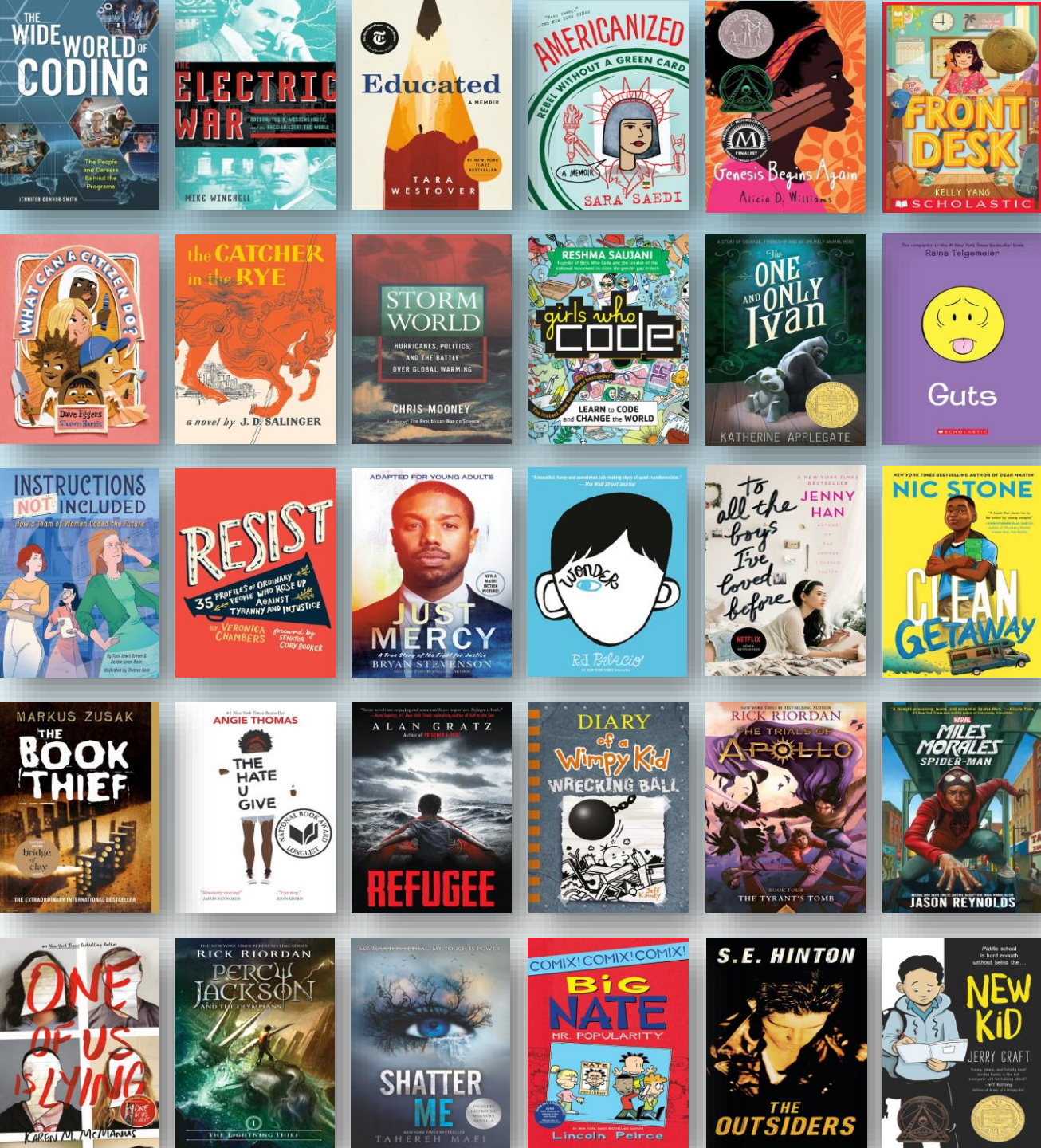


# Digital books are flexible

Ebooks and audiobooks can be read on **virtually any device**. Progress syncs across devices, and titles can be **downloaded to read offline** - so students can move seamlessly from a Chromebook at school to a phone or tablet at home!







Digital books are available to students 24/7/365, whether they're in school or at home.

# Plus, real-time reports can provide live insights into reading engagement.

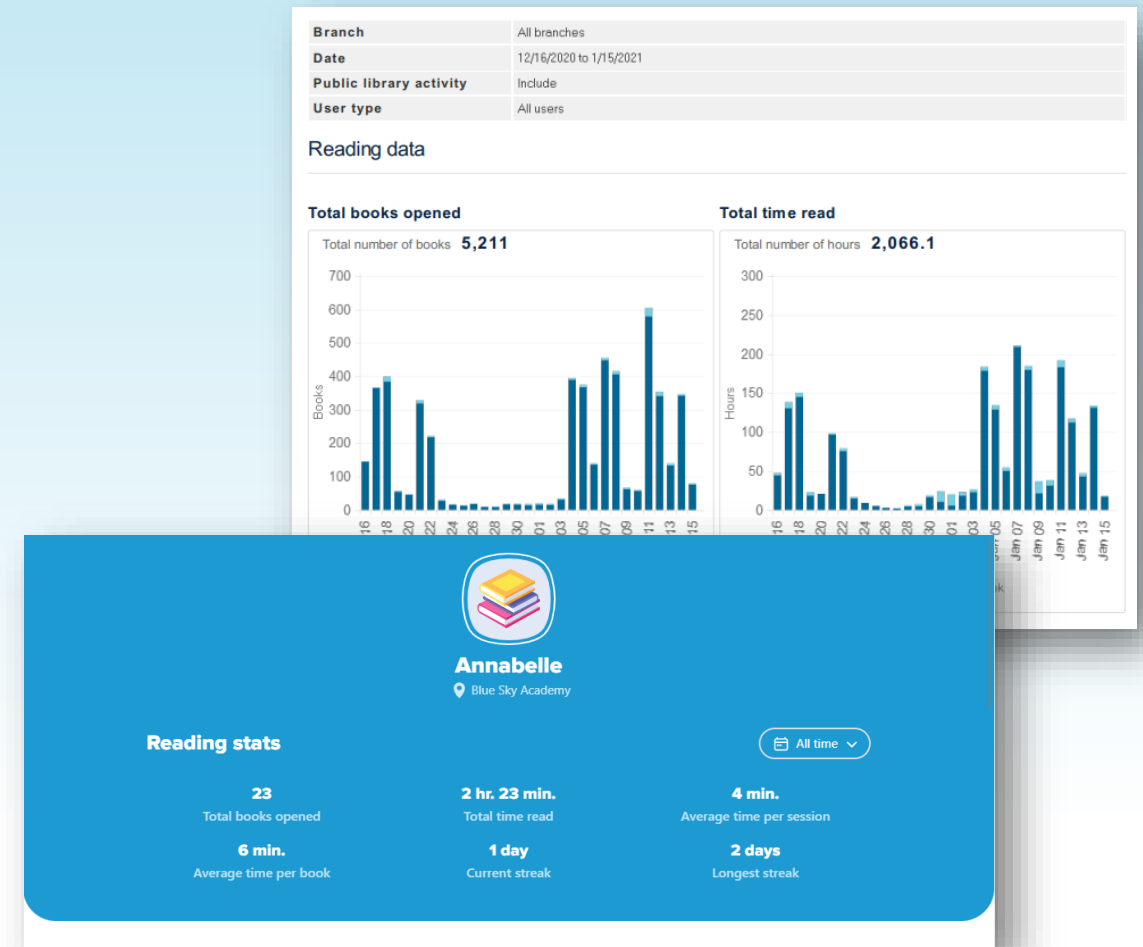
## Use reading data to:

Inform  
purchase  
decisions

See how  
students  
are reading  
in real-time

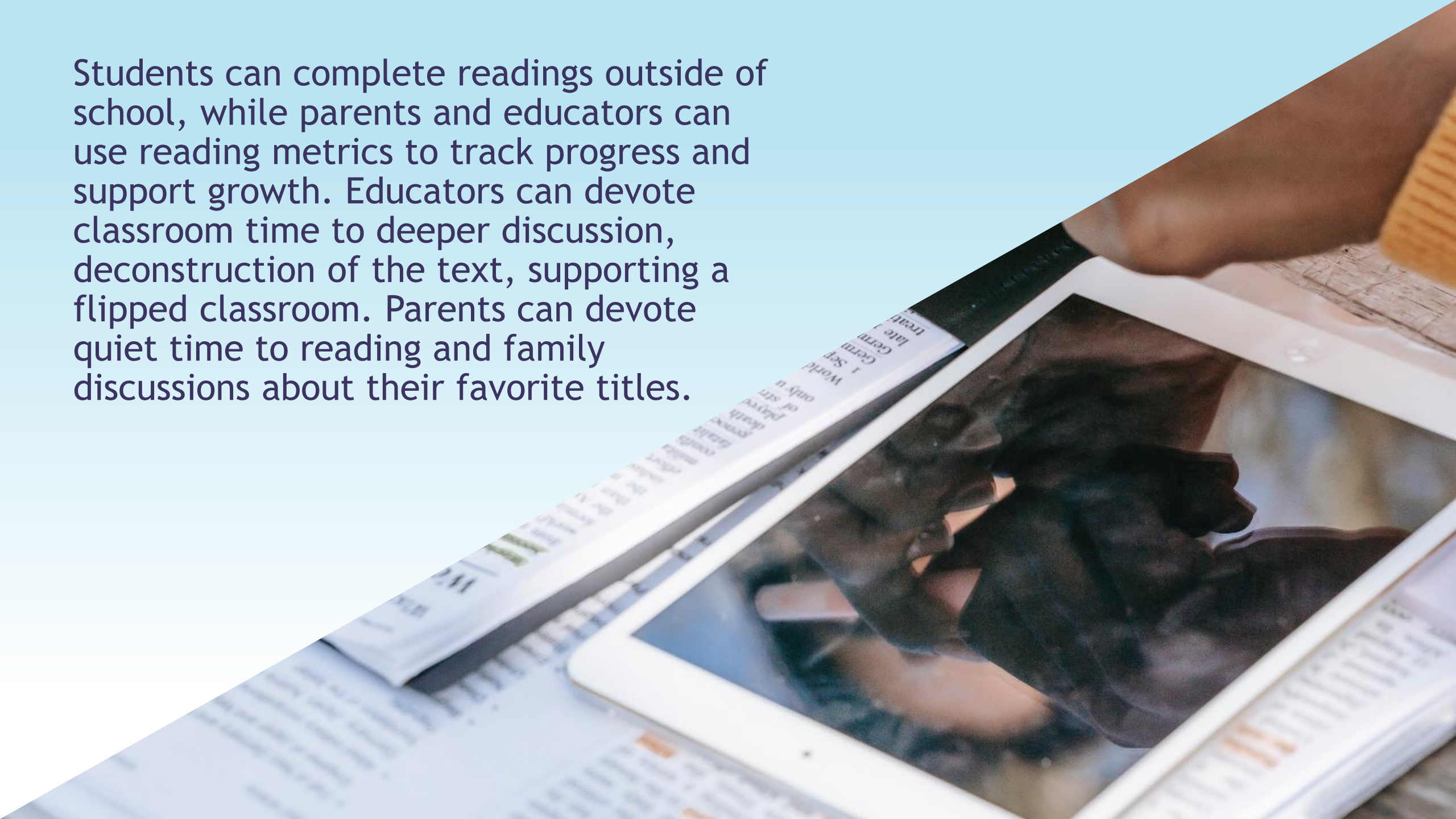
Guide  
intervention  
strategies

Identify  
usage  
trends





Students can complete readings outside of school, while parents and educators can use reading metrics to track progress and support growth. Educators can devote classroom time to deeper discussion, deconstruction of the text, supporting a flipped classroom. Parents can devote quiet time to reading and family discussions about their favorite titles.



# Why is having access to a digital library important to readers?

*“Students are able to access the books that are they are interested in reading. Also with audiobooks, students can access books that they may be above their level which will increase their abilities and knowledge.”*

**Diana Colby, Librarian, Vista Ridge MS**

*“There is something for everyone, and if a student wants to read a book that their peers may question, or a book that they want to keep private, Sora offers them that opportunity.”*

**Debi Riggs, Librarian, Trinity Meadows Intermediate School**

*“Students are able to search for books based on multiple criteria in the library, in their classroom or at home. Sora offers ebooks and audiobooks that allow students to find stories of many genres and formats to fit their tastes or needs.”*

**Garrick Van Dyke, Librarian, Caprock Elementary**



EQUALITY

Ebook



Young Reader  
ebook



Audiobook



Young Reader  
Spanish ebook



Spanish  
ebook



EQUITY



# Now, let's talk about how digital can support:



Emerging  
readers



Struggling  
readers



Multilingual  
readers



Advanced  
readers



Emerging readers



# Read-along picture books

- Professionally narrated, with highlighted text
- Can listen like an audiobook but with pictures to help comprehension
- Speed up and slow down playback like an audiobook





# Read-alongs offer...

...the same features as ebooks:

- ✓ Definitions
- ✓ Notes
- ✓ Bookmarks

...additional early reader support:

- ✓ Listen first
- ✓ Read with support
- ✓ Read independently





# Hearing the words while seeing them on the screen promotes:

Vocabulary  
acquisition,  
grammar, sentence  
structure,  
comprehension skills,  
and reinforces  
decoding

Cadence,  
pronunciation  
and reading  
fluency

Enhances problem  
solving, empathy,  
critical and  
creative thinking  
without the  
burden of  
decoding static  
text alone

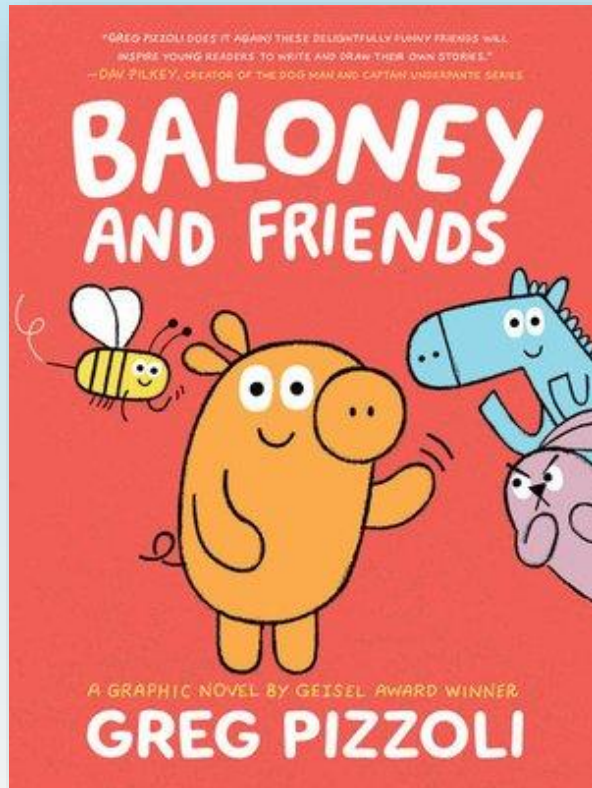
All the same elements  
as any other reading  
experience: Character  
development,  
setting, plot, etc.

In addition to unique-to-digital formats, you can give your early readers access to more conventional titles, too.

- Picture books with fixed layouts
- Phonics & decodable books
- Comics & graphic novels



# Graphic novels for emergent readers



Simplified  
panel  
structure

Small  
number of  
main  
characters

More  
standardized  
lettering for  
easier  
decoding

Anthropomorphized  
characters, often  
animals or food

Several short  
episodic  
stories within  
one book





# Struggling readers



# Audiobooks

- ✓ Address auditory learners' needs
- ✓ Vocabulary, cadence, sentence structure
- ✓ Can focus on content and other comprehension tasks



# Graphic novels & comics

Attractive  
to  
struggling  
readers

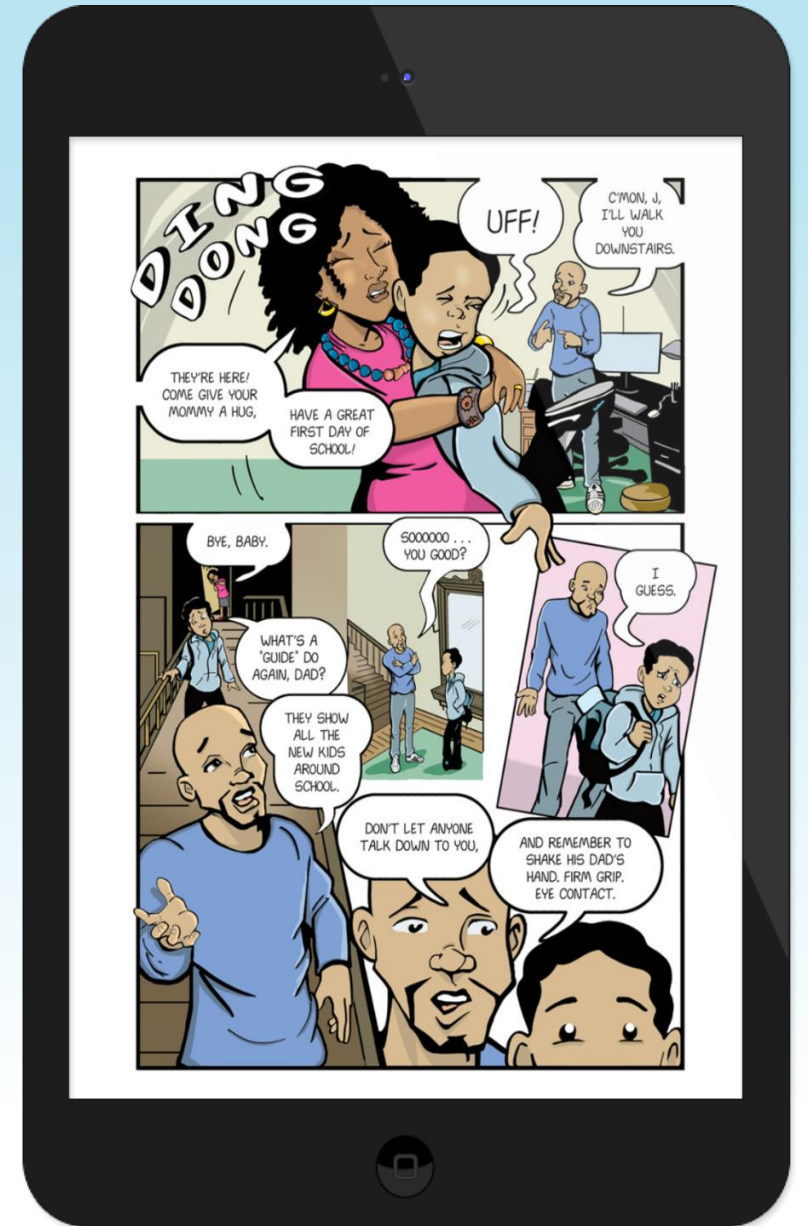
Visual clues  
provide  
context

Encourages  
visual  
literacy  
skills

Sequential art  
can help new  
readers  
practice  
tracking

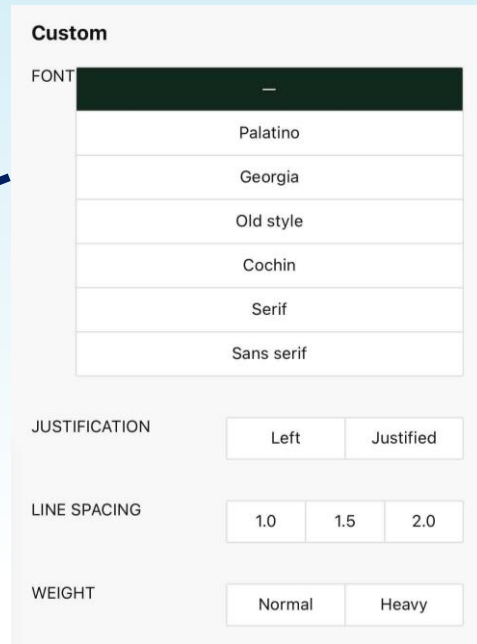
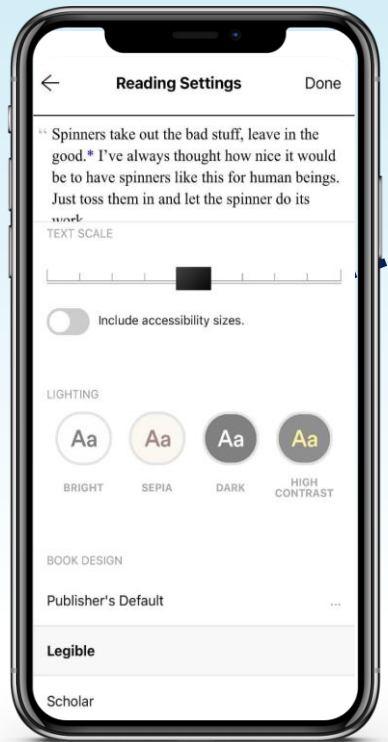
Enhance  
narrative  
understanding

Pairing text  
with an  
image  
improves  
retention

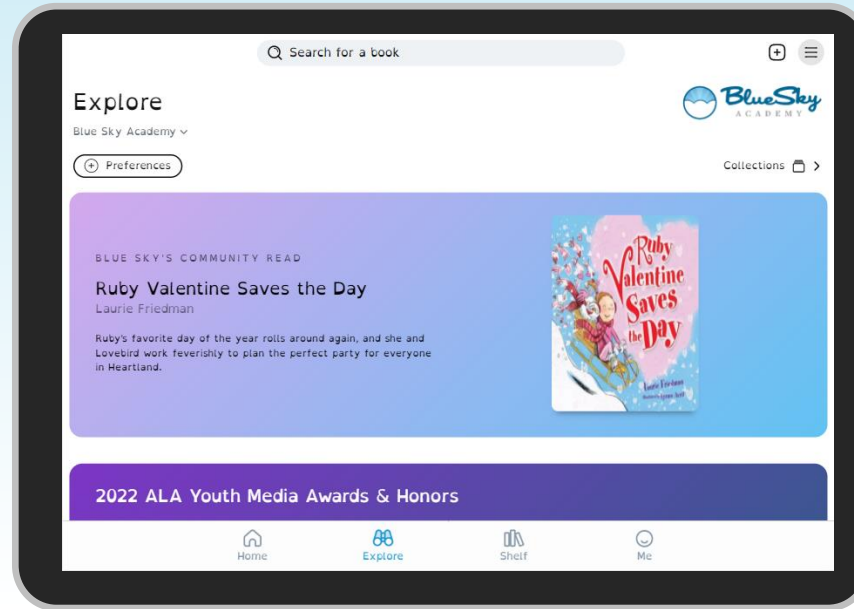


# Personalization features make reading more accessible and enjoyable

Adjustable fonts, text sizes, line spacing, and screen lighting



High-contrast mode

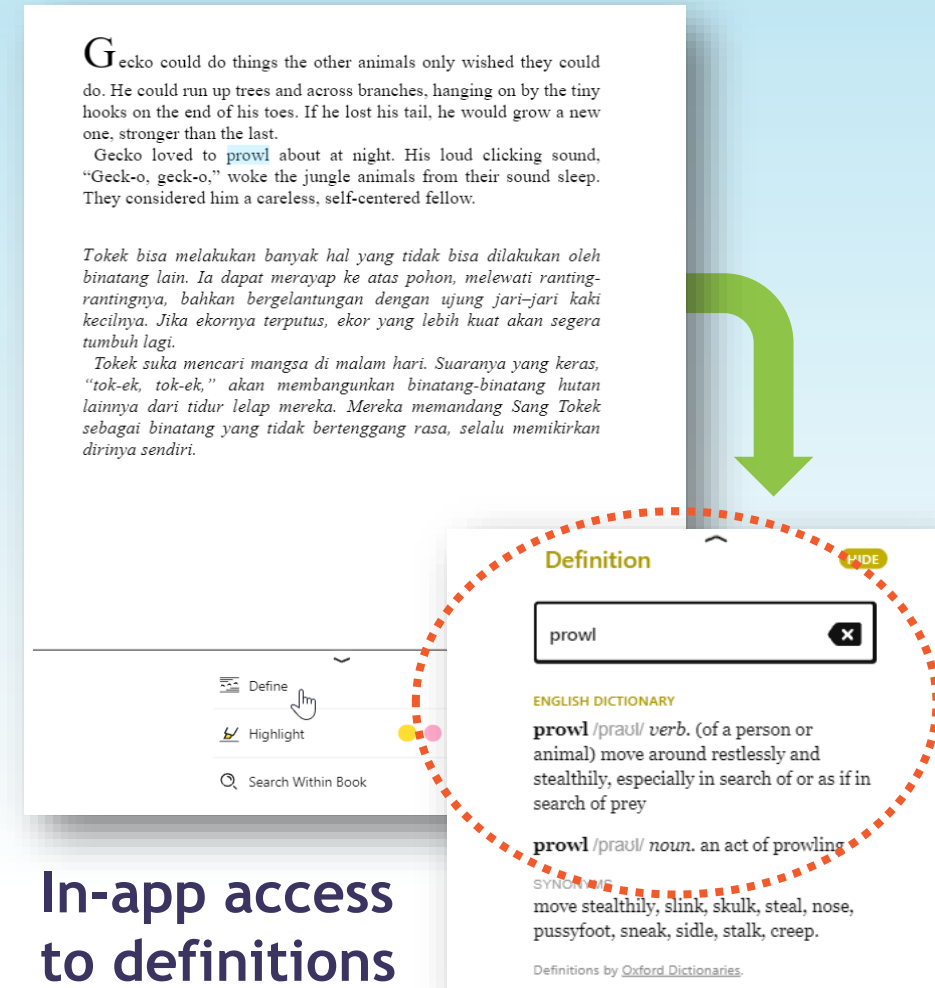
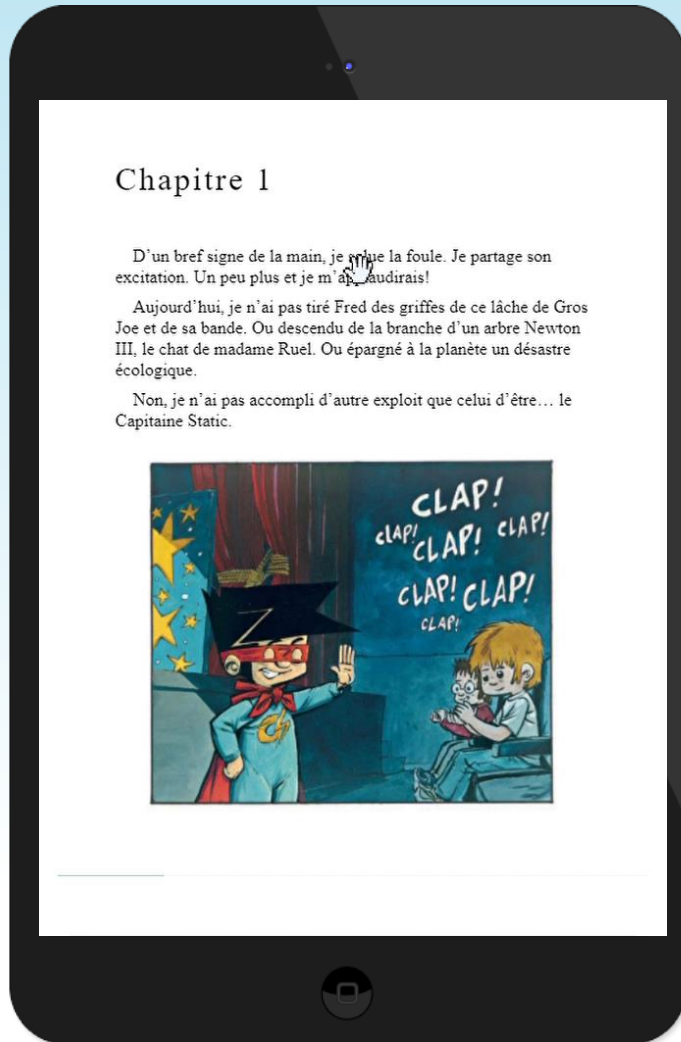
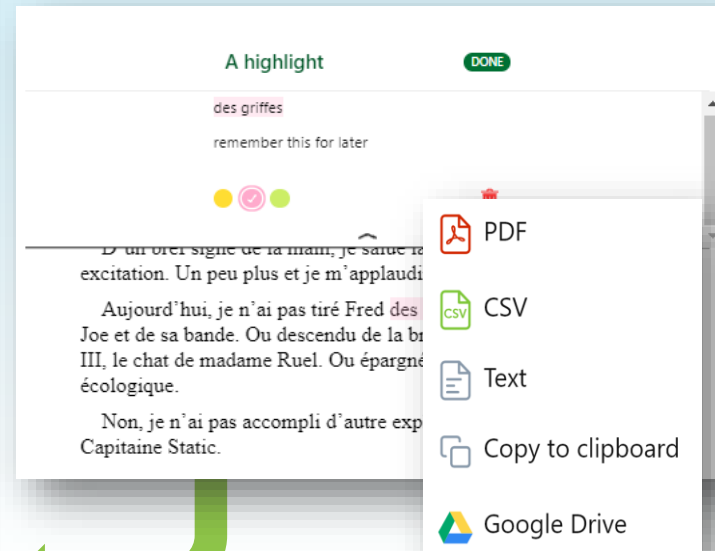


Dyslexic font



# Classroom tools enable deeper reading.

## Exportable notes and highlights



## In-app access to definitions

# Achievements motivate and reward students for trying different subjects and capabilities



Fiction



Nonfiction



Animals &  
Pets



Biography &  
Autobiography



Health &  
Fitness



History



Music



Mystery



Science



Science Fiction & Fantasy

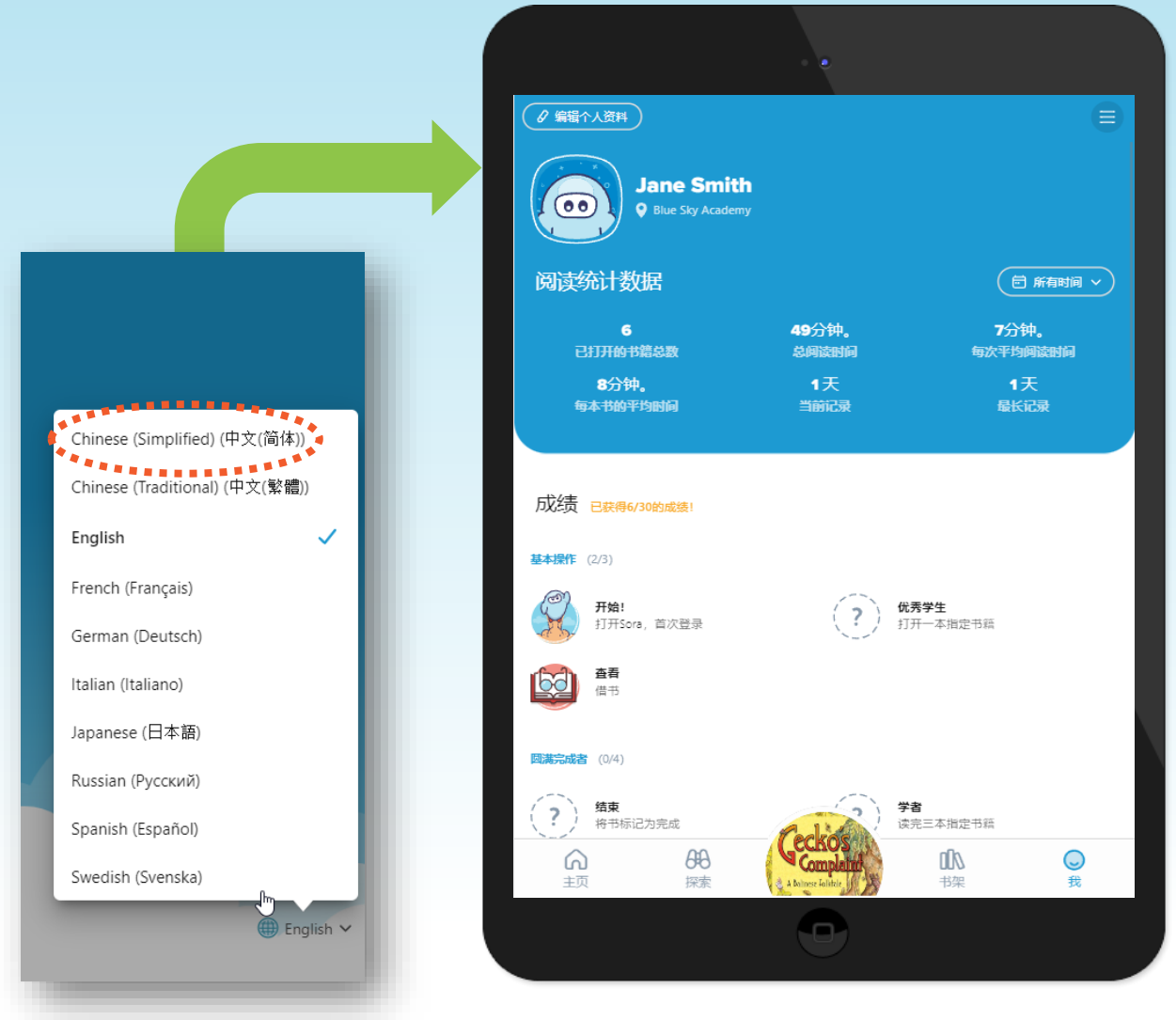


**Multilingual readers**



# Multilingual interface

- ✓ Several language options for app interface
- ✓ Simplifies exploration and discovery for ESL students
- ✓ Supports language classes and dual immersion programs





# Differentiated books keep students engaged.

## Read-Alongs



## Comics & graphic novels



## Classic lit



## Bilingual titles



## Translated popular titles



# Books in languages other than English

Support  
Newcomer and  
multilingual  
populations in your  
school/community.

If readers are  
proficient in their  
home language,  
base reading skills  
can transfer to  
English acquisition.

Conversely, early  
reading titles in  
other languages  
support the world  
languages and dual  
immersion  
programs provided  
in schools.





Advanced readers



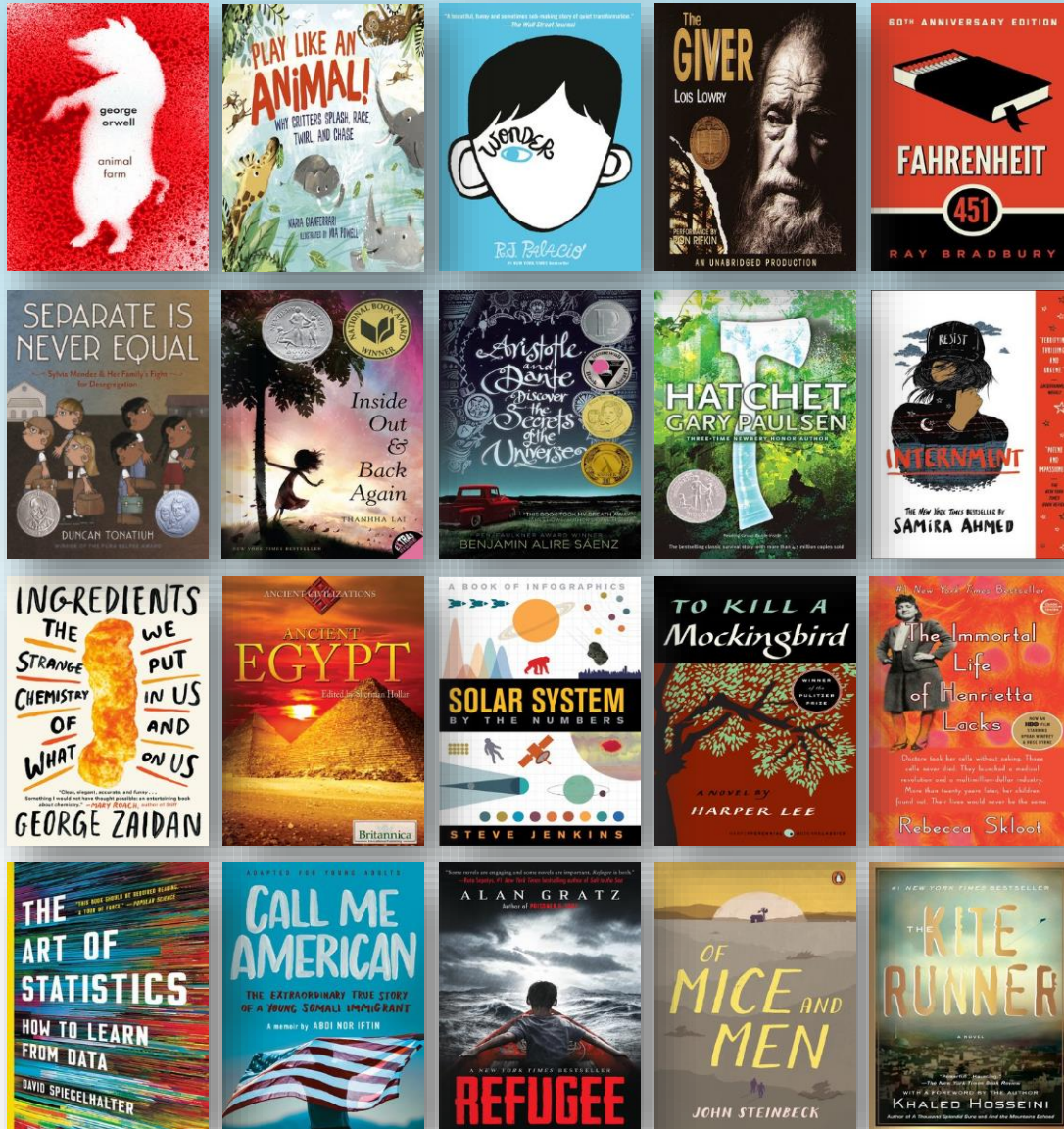
# Provide more options for learning engagement

- Advanced students may prefer avoiding that label among peers
- Gives students learning options to meet their needs and prevent them from feeling held back
- Provides continuous access to materials for voracious readers





# Use digital to cater to their interests and reading level



- Advanced students may be given access to the original version of a text, while the rest of their peers are reading the graphic novel or young reader version
- Students may be given access to additional options in the digital library that may not be available in the print library
- Students can be given even more access to books at their level using title assignments.



A young boy with short dark hair, wearing a grey hoodie, is sitting at a light-colored wooden desk. He is looking intently at a laptop screen. On the desk, there is a laptop, a spiral notebook, a pencil, an eraser, and a ruler. A potted plant is visible on the left side of the desk. A purple rectangular box is overlaid on the left side of the image, containing the text "What else can you do with digital?".

What **else** can you do with  
digital?

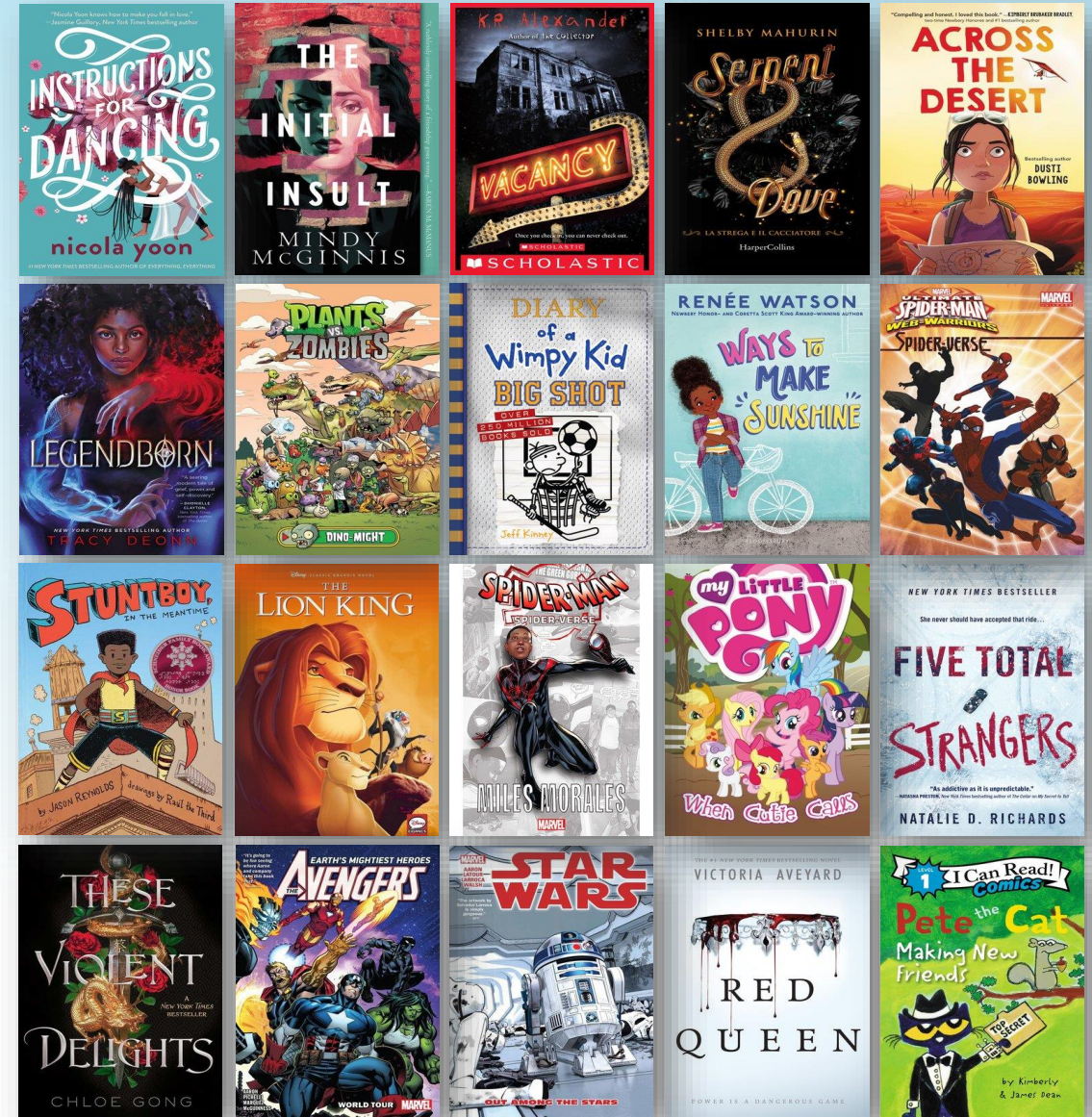


# Give students access to more choice reading.

Provide thousands of books with fewer logistical concerns:

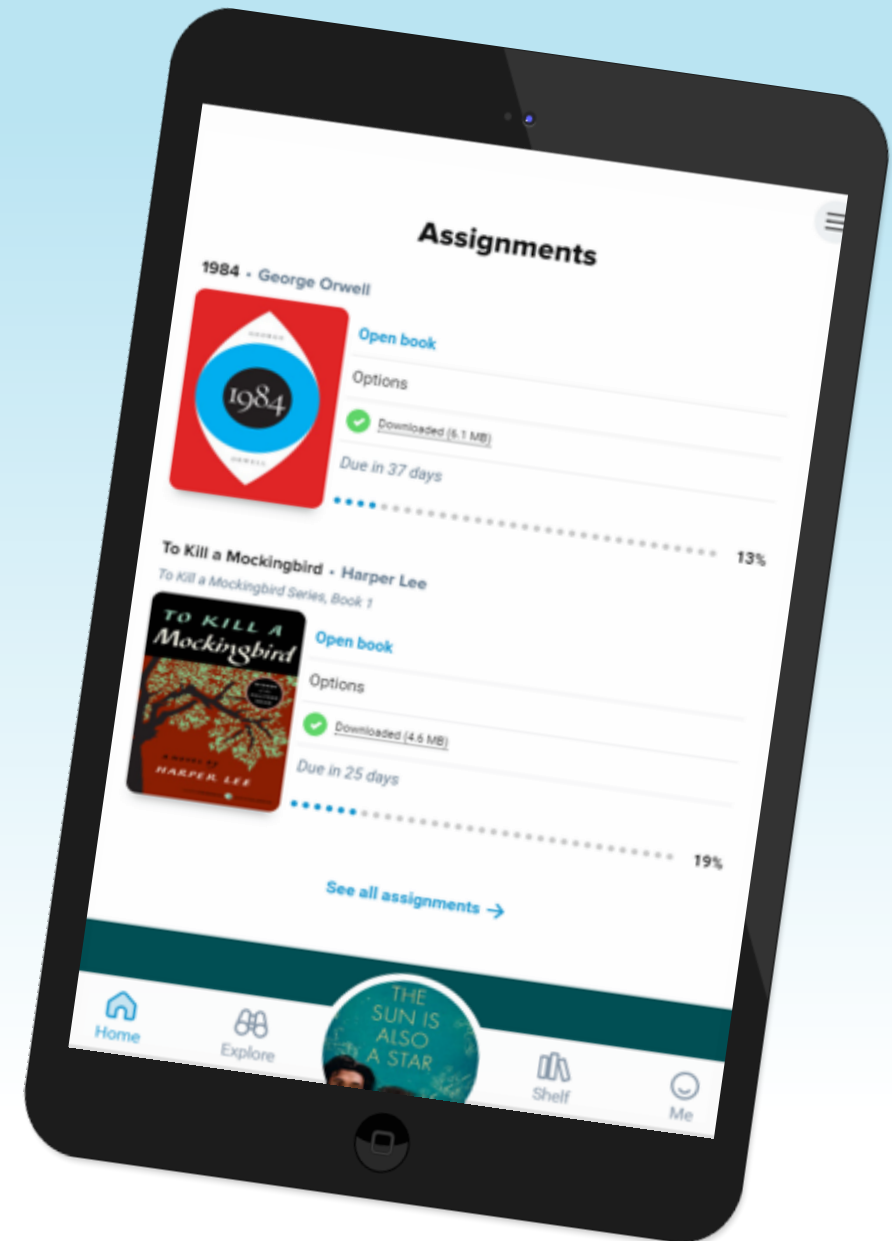
- No need for additional shelf space
- Easily expand your library without the additional workload of processing print books (no need to catalog, bind and shelve)
- Give students access to requested titles in a matter of hours vs. days, weeks or even months

*Pro-tip: Use student requests to build out a custom collection based on student interests, which can help increase interest in reading among students and increase buy-in.*



# Educators can assign curricular titles

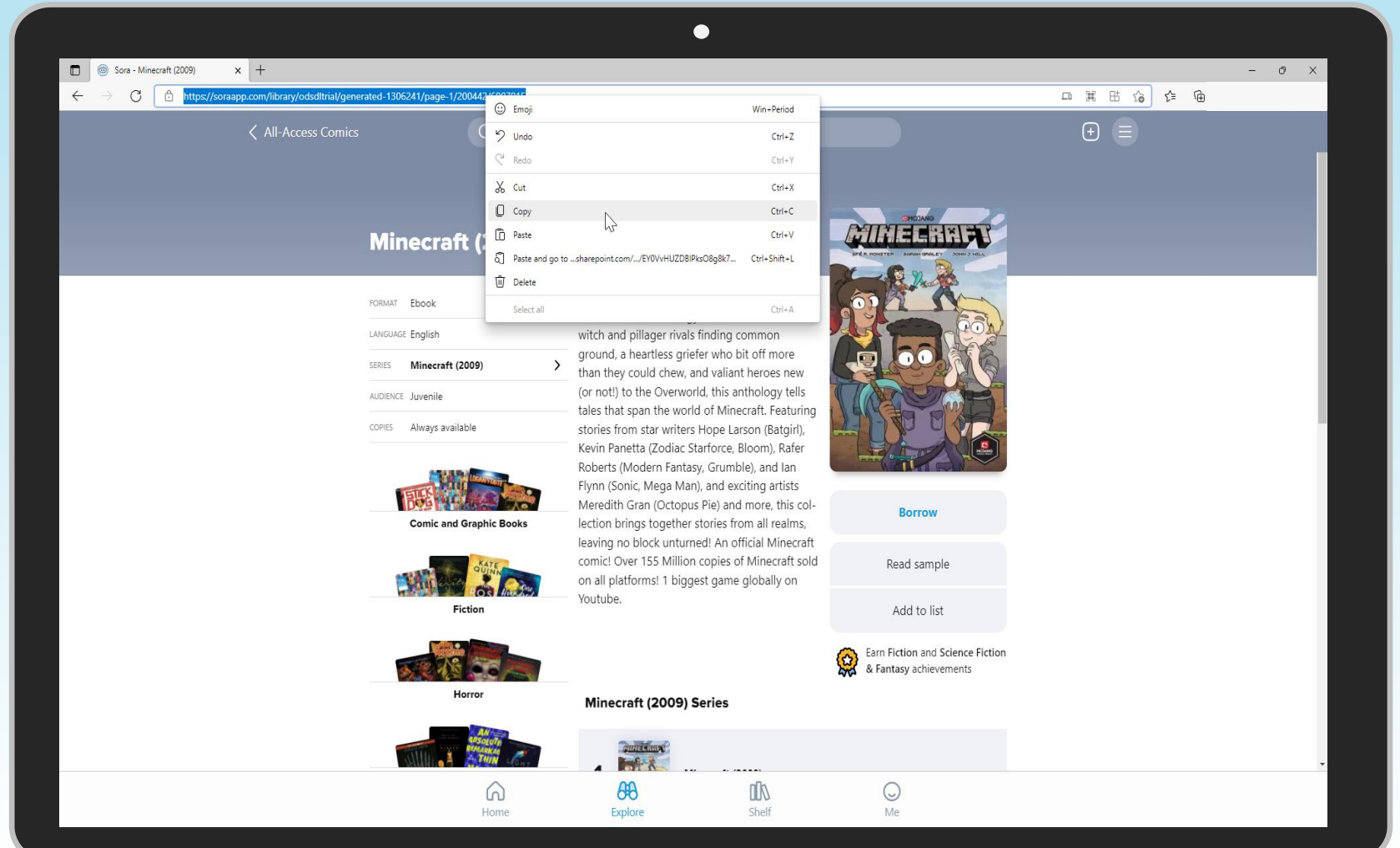
Books will automatically be added to students' shelves, and every student receives their own copy of the book that they can access at school, at home, offline and more.





# Deep linking

Copy and paste the URL from a book or a collection and share it directly.





**OPTION 1**

**OPTION 2**

**OPTION 3**

**OPTION 4**

**OPTION 5**

Use different purchasing options to get more from your budget

**Flexibility to choose includes:**

- Purchase permanent copies
- Pay for titles on a per-use basis
- Rent titles for short-term needs
- Add simultaneous-use titles
- And more!



# You can give students Class Sets!



**Digital Class Sets** are a flexible, cost-effective rental option that make it easy to quickly deliver assigned reading to students, even when they're not in school.

Perfect for high-volume, temporary reading needs.

Books can't be lost or damaged.

More cost-effective than purchasing books outright.



# Why choose digital Class Sets?



Flexibility to read the latest releases - you're not limited to what you already own in print!



Deliver books to students within 24 hours (or less)!



Simple to distribute, accessible on any device, and never take up shelf space.



Prices start at \$0.99 per student, and titles cannot be lost or damaged.



Educators can leverage reading data to measure how their school's collection is being used in real time.



Flexible lending models (like Class Sets) make it more cost-effective to host book clubs and all-school or all-class reads.

# All-student “JetTime” book study from Alpine School District, UT

- *Make Your Bed* by Admiral William H. McRaven
- Required a special request to the publisher (Hachette) who approved \$2.99/student in On-Demand Class Set\*
- Engaged students and their families with a social media graphic, signature block, flyer and poster.
- Students read during a required class called “JetTime”, and the curriculum is available in Canvas.

*\*Using the ebook in Sora for this book study saved them \$32,000 (that’s right, \$32,000!!) when compared to purchasing print copies.*

## Taking off Feb 1st!

Admiral William H. McRaven shares lessons learned through his Navy SEAL training that we can apply to the challenges we face in our lives



The image shows the front cover of the book 'Make Your Bed' by Admiral William H. McRaven. The cover is dark blue with gold lettering. It features the title 'MAKE YOUR BED' in large, bold letters, and the subtitle 'LITTLE THINGS THAT CAN CHANGE YOUR LIFE...AND MAYBE THE WORLD' below it. The author's name 'ADMIRAL WILLIAM H. McRAVEN (U.S. Navy Retired)' is at the top. A gold border frames the text.

**To find your own copy of *Make Your Bed*:**

1. Visit [soraapp.com](https://soraapp.com)
2. Click "I have a setup code" and enter AlpineUT
3. Select Cedar Valley High from the dropdown
4. Login with your Student Number and Last Name.



The logo for 'JetTime' features a stylized red 'G' with a white checkmark inside, followed by the word 'JETTIME' in red capital letters.



The Sora logo consists of a blue cartoon rocket ship with a face, flying upwards.

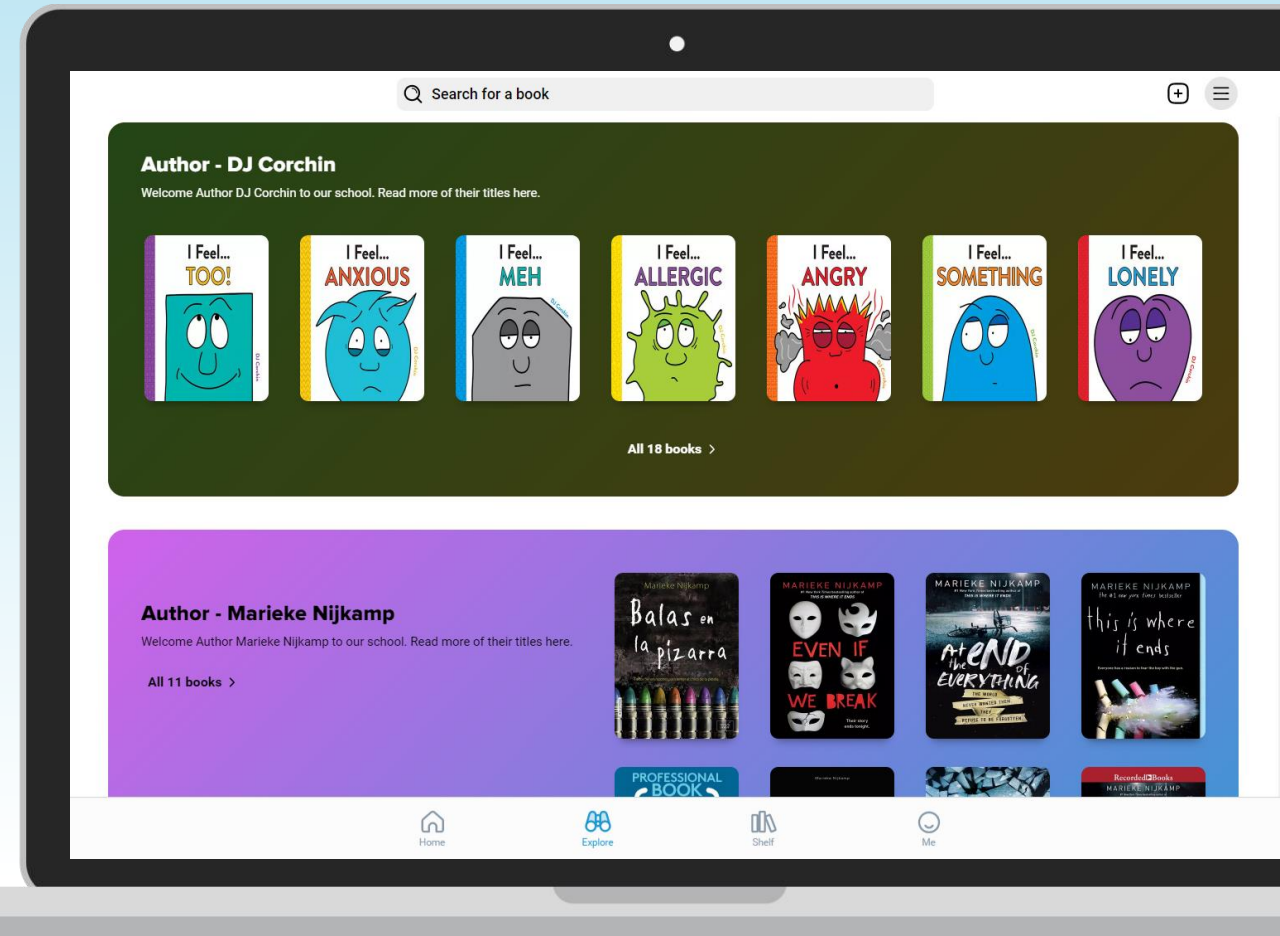
**Sora**  
The student reading app



# Professional Development Example from Weber School District, UT

- ***Bold School*** by Weston Kieschnick
- Paid \$104.00 for 100 checkouts, purchased 3 copies and assigned each checkout to 250+ staff members across the district\*
- Achieved 50% of their district using Sora after engaging all staff

***\*Using the audiobook in Sora for this PD title saved them \$4,938!***





# Questions?



**Jody Brookshire**  
Account Executive  
OverDrive Education



**Gretchen Zaitzeff**  
District Library Media Specialist  
Canyons School District