



Sora

The student reading app

Soar with Sora

Monthly Newsletter

August 2022 | Delaware Accelerate Learning
Digital Collection

Welcome!

In this edition, your Sora Team has collected product tips and tricks, data highlights, training events and resources to help you save time and use digital books in the classroom.

In this issue

[Check Sora for your Fall Reading Lists.](#)

[Meet your new Sora, by OverDrive Team Members!](#)

[A message for Sarah Wilsman, your OverDrive Librarian](#)

[Back to School Technology Updates](#)

[Update the Student Dashboard](#)

[Data deep dive: who's reading & top 10](#)

[Let's plan for FALL!](#)

[Use social media to engage more students](#)



Never miss an update! Make sure you're signed up for our email newsletters to be the first to know about sales, new features, and updates about Sora right away: <https://forms.office.com/r/VjHqSnM0Fh>

Check out previous releases of the Soar with Sora Newsletter here: <https://company.overdrive.com/k-12-schools/discover-sora/deschools/>

Check Sora for your Fall Reading Lists.

Your Sora team has been busy updating Sora with all the latest titles needed for Fall, but we need your help. Take a moment and review your reading list to ensure the titles you need are available in Sora. If there are titles missing or you don't see enough copies available, reach out to [Jody](#) or use our [Request a Title](#) form.

ACTION ITEM: Check [Sora](#) to ensure you have the titles & copy counts needed for Fall reading.



OverDrive
Education



Follow us on social! @sorareadingapp

DiscoverSora.com
schools@overdrive.com
(216) 573-6886

Meet your new Sora, by OverDrive Team Members!

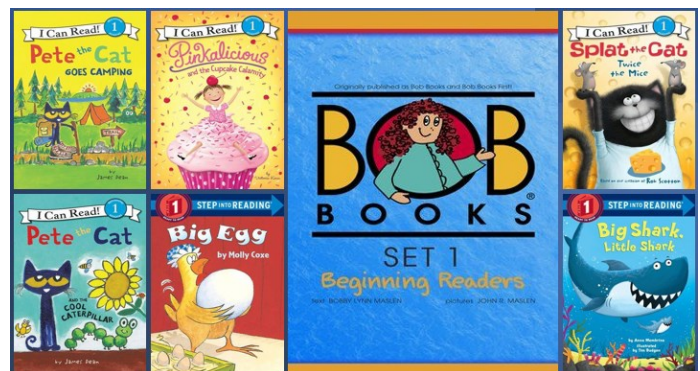
In case you missed our July newsletter, we wanted to take a moment to reintroduce you to your new team members.



- **Jody Brookshire** - Jody is a dedicated e-learning and digital content Educational Account Executive with more than 25 years in the industry. Her background includes supporting districts with digital content, 21st Century technology initiatives, STEM & Robotics, and implementation of classroom management software.
- **Victoria Darnell** (name change & soon to be 1st time mom) - Victoria is the Account Manager for schools in District of Columbia, Delaware, Maryland, and New Jersey. Her focus is to actively engage students in learning, promote student independence, and highlight community talent.
- **Cara Leach** (New Team Member) - Cara has been with OverDrive since August 2020. She received her Bachelors in Early Childhood Education from Bowling Green State University and her Reading Endorsement from Ohio University. As a former educator and avid reader, Cara understands the value and importance reading plays in students' lives daily.
- **Sarah Wilsman** (New Team Member) - Reading is Sarah's only hobby. She has her BA in English from Kenyon College and her MLIS from Kent State University. Before coming to OverDrive Sarah managed Youth Services Departments in public libraries where her favorite part of the job was collection development. As a digital librarian for Delaware, she loves connecting students with great books.

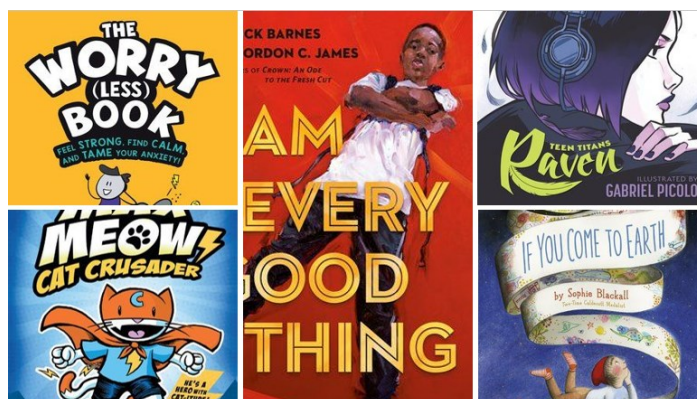
A message from Sarah Wilsman, your OverDrive Digital Content Librarian

To support new readers, we created a collection of decodable books and early readers for **Emerging Readers** that includes the BOB books and the Pete the Cat I Can Read! Series.



[The Blue Hen Award Nominees for 2023](#) are now available including

- [Starfish](#) (Printz honor book) and [audio version](#)
- [Heartstopper](#) (popular Netflix series)
- [Measuring Up](#) (ALA Top 10 Graphic Novel)



Popular content got a refresh so check out [V is for Video Games!](#) and [The Summer I Turned Pretty Read Alikes](#) while there are still some lazy days of summer left

- Check out Sarah Dessen's [Along for the Ride](#) (also on Netflix)
- Or read about the [Fornite](#) craze in the Game On! Series

Back to School Technology Updates

As we head back to school, please make sure your technology/tech configurations are up to date!

- Does OverDrive have your current tech and librarian contacts' information?
- Are any changes being made to LMS's, SIS's, or organizational units?
- Have you heard of the [Sora Showcase!](#) Learn how you can promote a culture of reading in your school with the Sora Showcase. Reach out to [Cara Leach](#), your product support specialist to learn how you can customize the showcase for your school.



Update the Student Dashboard

August 1st starts a new year for the student dashboard. You will want to go into the Marketplace and update your dashboard with your student accounts. As a reminder, with this tool, educators can access robust student reading data from Sora. This includes number of books opened, hours of time read, number of reading sessions, active reading days, average time per session, average time per book, and achievements earned. Here is a [quick video](#) to walk you through how to create classes & monitor your student data.

User ID	Branch	Books opened	Time read	Reading sessions	Active days	Avg. time per session	Avg. time per book	Achievements earned
1. clemson@overdrive.com	Blue Sky	19	12:26	52	23	0:14	0:39	5
2. davis@overdrive.com	Blue Sky	14	6:14	30	14	0:12	0:26	2
3. carson@overdrive.com	Blue Sky	6	8:40	35	17	0:14	1:26	2
4. carson@overdrive.com	Blue Sky	7	0:50	12	5	0:04	0:07	2
5. davis@overdrive.com	Blue Sky	9	7:03	27	17	0:15	0:47	1
6. lisa@overdrive.com	Blue Sky	10	6:52	36	8	0:11	0:41	13
7. morgan@overdrive.com	Blue Sky	13	25:09	41	10	0:36	1:58	1

To update the dashboard, log into the OverDrive Marketplace. Click **INSIGHTS**, then Click on **Student Dashboard**. **Note: Only staff who have Marketplace access can view & create dashboards.** To create a class, click the “**Manage Class**” button. Then Click “**+ Add New Class**”. Enter a **Class Name**. **Pro Tip: If you are at the district level, you can create a “All Students” class.**

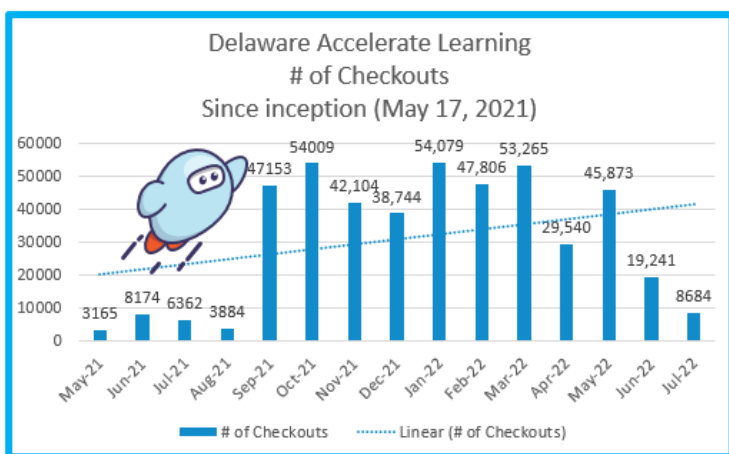
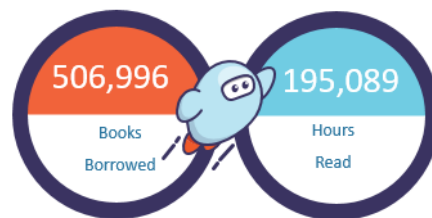
Select your districts authentication name from the dropdown and then copy all your students email addresses and

paste them in the “User IDs” box. Each email address needs to be on a new line. (no commas needed). Sora will automatically include a filter by school name so there is no need to create a class for each school. You can also provide access to the Marketplace for Reading Specialists, ELA Coaches, teachers, librarians, or anyone else who will need access to this reporting. Each Marketplace user will need to create their own classes to view the data.

Note: For those that were using the dashboard but did not capture their data prior to yesterday, let us know. We pulled a report and can forward you your schools’ details.

Data deep dive: who’s reading & top 10

As we close a year of access to Sora, we have a lot to be proud about. We have seen over **506,996 books borrowed** and over **195,089 hours read**. The latest data is below, but you also have access to this data for your district. If you would like to learn how to access your own usage data please reach out to [Jody](#).



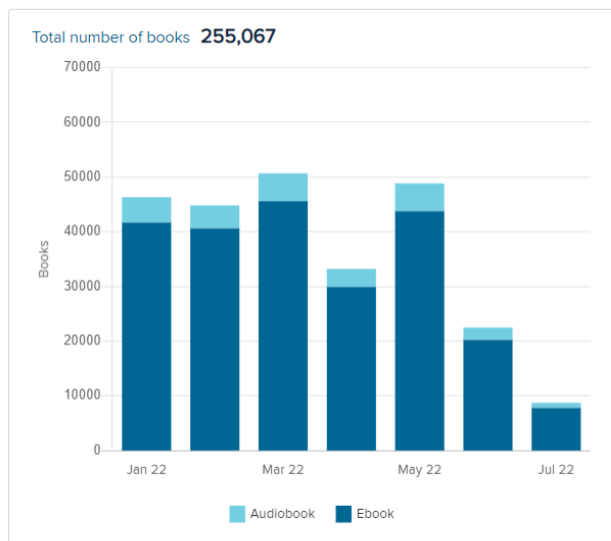
Let’s look at 2022 data!
Data since January 1, 2022

- **256,863**, checkouts
- **123,854** hours read

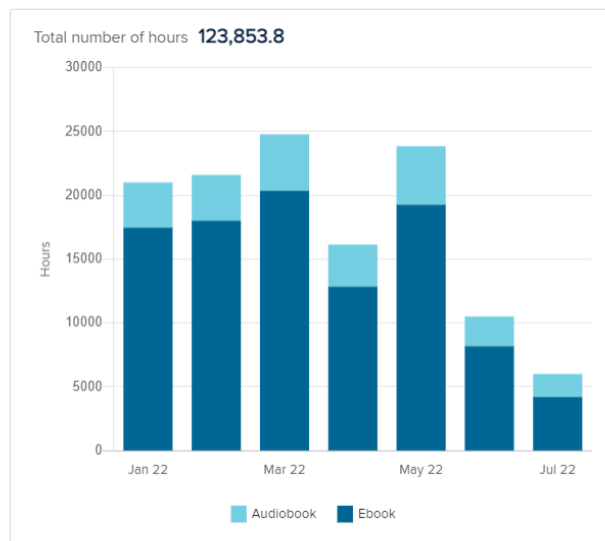
July 1 – July 31, 2022

- **8,684** checkouts!
- **5,983** hours read!

Total books opened



Total time read



Books opened shows how engaged students are with what they are reading. 230,563 checkouts but some books opened more than once

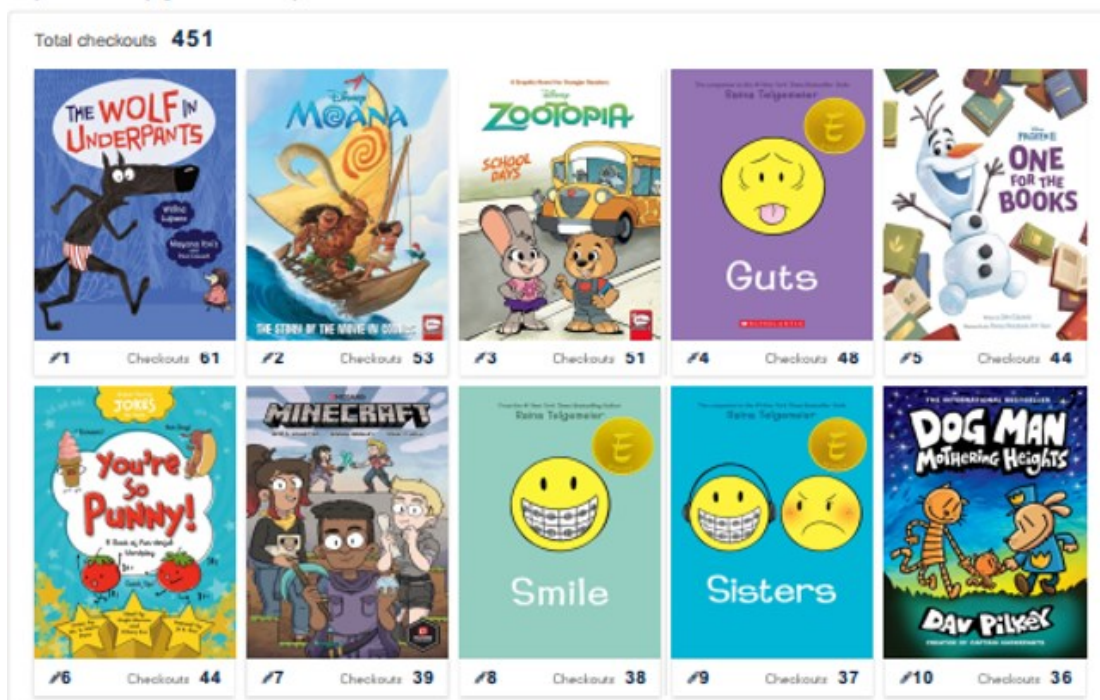
Top Readers since inception – May 17, 2022 – June 27,2022

Branch	School Name	Books opened	Time read
Caesar Rodney School District	Major George S. Welch Elementary School	44	963:46:00
Brandywine School District	Claymont Elementary School	184	933:17:00
Indian River School District	Georgetown Middle School	175	917:36:00
Christina School District	Gallagher Elementary School	80	750:27:00
Red Clay Consolidated School District	Linden Hill Elementary School	180	610:25:00
Cape Henlopen School District	Cape Henlopen School District	104	535:48:00
Capital School District	Central Middle School	59	511:26:00
Brandywine School District	Mt. Pleasant Elementary School	267	462:02:00
Appoquinimink School District	Appoquinimink School District	64	456:36:00
Indian River School District	Selbyville Middle School	144	439:45:00



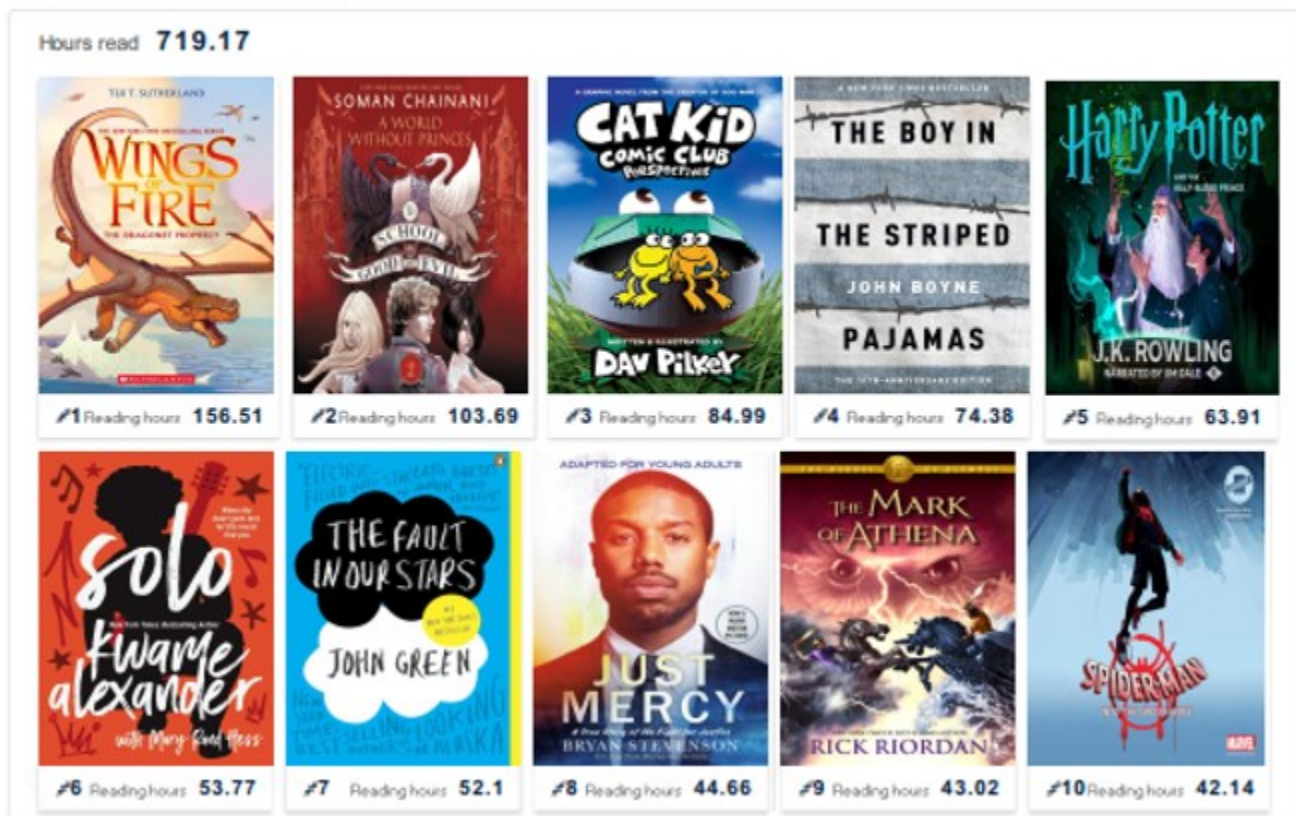
Top 10 Titles by Checkout & Read Time – July 1 – July 31, 2022

Top 10 titles (by checkouts)



Top 10 Titles by Read Time June 1 – June 27, 2022

Top 10 titles (by time read)



Let's plan for FALL!

Do you have fall PD days scheduled? Your Sora team would love to present Sora and/or Marketplace Reporting to your team. Please send your professional development days and times to [Jody Brookshire](#) or feel free to book directly via my calendar link.



[Jody Brookshire](#)

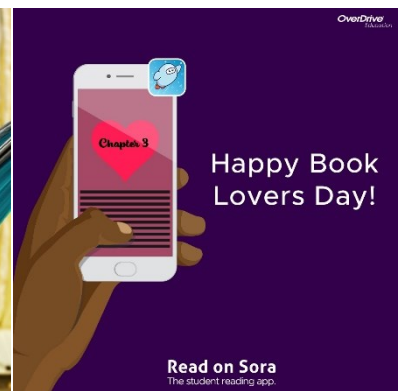
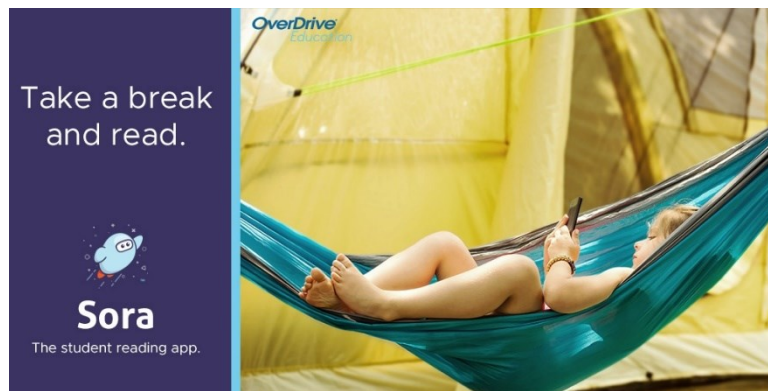


Here are some other “notable” tutorials you may have missed.

- [Sora Introduction Video](#) – (1:43) great to share to students for the first time. Feel free to link to it via your school sites
- [How to videos](#)
- Self-Paced Learning Modules (already customized for Delaware Schools)
 - [For Students](#)
 - [For Teachers](#)
 - How to [Add the public library](#)

Use social media to engage more students

Link social media graphics to the digital collection: <https://soraapp.com/library/deschools>. Promote using the unique QR code.



Reach more students by sharing social media images we've provided.

- Download your [Delaware Social Media Kit](#)
- Target your images to your [Digital Collection](#): <https://soraapp.com/library/deschools>
- -OR- Target your post content to a specific book using the [grab URL trick](#) you learned above
- Get [even more promo items](#) from the OverDrive Resource Center.



Thanks for reading!

Your Sora Team: Jody, Victoria, Sarah & Cara