



Soar with Sora

Monthly Newsletter

March 2023 | 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.

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Never miss an update! Make sure you're signed up for our newsletters here: [SIGN-UP](#)

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

Welcome our New, Sora Team Member

We are excited to introduce you to [Bailey Hotujac](#), our newest team member. Bailey has been with Overdrive for 10+ years. Since 2012, she has worked with schools all over the world to find ebooks and audiobooks to engage student readers. In her free time, she enjoys traveling to art museums all over the world. Bailey will be the perfect person for you to plan your summer reading initiatives & PD. As a reminder here are the rest of your team members:

[Jody Brookshire](#), Account Executive

[Bailey Hotujac](#), Account Manager

[Cara Leach](#), Product Support Specialist

[Sarah Wilsman](#), Digital Content Librarian



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Spring is in the Air

As the weather warms up and the flowers begin to bloom, there's no better time to indulge in some spring reading. Whether you prefer curling up with a classic novel or diving into a new release, there's something about the fresh air and sunshine that makes reading all the more enjoyable. While you & your students are searching the collection for your next great title or series, here are some resources that may have you trying something a little different.

- On the [ME tab](#) in Sora, click on a [subject badge](#) to search the collection for a new genre or subject.
- Use our ready made "[Reading Challenge](#)" graphics to promote healthy competition.



Professional Development Refreshers

Professional development is like giving yourself an upgrade! It's all about finding fun and exciting ways to fine-tune your skills, learn new things, and stay ahead of the curve. Here are some fun DIY opportunities you can tackle anytime from anywhere.

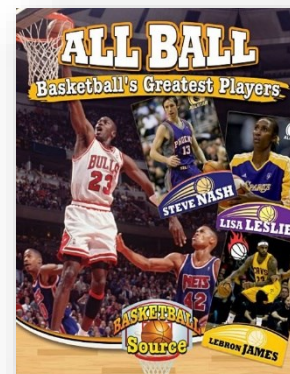
- [Sora for PK-3 Readers](#) - This module is designed for educators. Discover tips and resources for helping your youngest readers and prereaders sign into Sora to begin enjoying titles in the app.
- [Language Learning with Sora, the student reading app](#) - This module is designed for educators. Discover ways to use Sora to support your world language classroom initiatives.
- [Getting Started with Sora](#) - Educators - Educators: Learn Sora step-by-step.
- [Using Sora for Classrooms & Curriculum](#) - This module is designed for educators. Discover ways to use Sora's flexible reading tools for lesson planning, curriculum development, and more.
 - Bonus: download the [Sora for Classrooms & Curriculum connections chart](#), an at-a-glance view for educators of how Sora's features connect to classrooms & curriculum.



This Months Featured Title: All Ball: Basketball's Greatest Players

By Jennifer Rivkin

From all-time greats such as Larry Bird and Michael Jordan to current superstars like LeBron James, readers will enjoy learning all about their favorite hoopsters. Record-breaking stats, famous quotes, history-making shots, and more celebrate the best basketball stars since the game began in 1891.



Updated seasonal curated collections.

- [Women's History Month](#)
- [Read Alongs](#)
- [Females in Sports](#)

Updates to Curriculum: All HQIM lists have been updated. To quickly find your required read via Sora, simply search for a title via the Search bar, scroll through the EXPLORE page, or click on Collections & search for your HQIM. You can also use the curriculum curation pdf, which features direct links - <https://static.od-cdn.com/Curations.pdf>.



Please reach out to [Sarah Wilsman](#) your Digital Content Librarian swilsman@overdrive.com if titles are missing

March Hot Titles

Last Chance Dance by Lakita Wilson

"An utterly charming YA romance perfect for fans of Elise Bryant and Leah Johnson.

"An ode to love in all its beautiful chaos. Leila is funny, irreverent, and next-level charming, and her story is an actual joyride. Sheer delight through and through." — Becky Albertalli, New York Times bestselling author of *Simon vs. the Homo Sapiens Agenda*

Leila is crushed when Dev, her boyfriend of four years, breaks up with her right before graduation. Just when she's thinking she wasted her entire high school experience on a dead-end relationship, her best friend Bree reminds her that Last Chance Dance is just around the corner.

A high school tradition, the Last Chance Dance gives all the students one last opportunity to find love before they graduate. All Leila has to do is submit three unrequited crushes to the dance committee and if any of her crushes list her too, they'll get matched. Presto: new relationship, just like that. To her utter amazement, Leila is matched with all three of her choices—and with someone she never expected, Tre Hillman, her chemistry partner and low-key nemesis.

Though at times skeptical, Leila embarks on her Last Chance Dance mission—trying out her matches and going on dates. If Dev wasn't her true love—then maybe someone else is. She knows it's definitely not Tre, even though he seems more and more determined to convince her he's right for her.

But as graduation and the dance approaches, and each date seems to change her mind (and her heart)—Leila must figure out what—and who—she really wants. It's her last chance, right?.

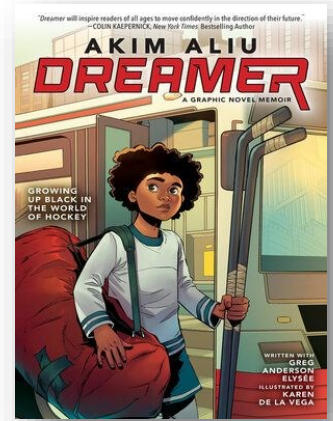


Dreamer by Akim Aliu, Greg Anderson Elysée, Karen De la Vega, et al.

This honest, engrossing graphic memoir tells the story of professional athlete and activist Akim Aliu's incredible life as a hockey prodigy in Canada.

Akim Aliu — also known as "Dreamer" — is a Nigerian born, Ukrainian Canadian professional hockey player whose career took him all around the world and who experienced systemic racism at everyone turn. This graphic novel tells Akim's incredible story, from being the only black child in his Ukrainian school, to having his teeth bashed in by a racist teammate in the Ontario junior league. A gut-wrenching and riveting graphic novel memoir that reminds us to never stop dreaming, this story is sure to inspire young readers everywhere.

"With honesty and courage, Akim Aliu's Dreamer will inspire readers of all ages to move confidently in the direction of their future." - Colin Kaepernick.



Who is LeBron James? by Crystal Hubbard, Who HQ, Stephen Marchesi

How did a young boy from Ohio go on to become one of the greatest basketball players of all time? Read about the incredible life and career of LeBron James in this addition to the #1 New York Times best-selling Who Was? series.

Today, LeBron James is an international superstar who has won four NBA Championships, earned two Olympic gold medals, written books, and starred in blockbuster movies. He has played for the Los Angeles Lakers, the Miami Heat, and the Cleveland Cavaliers, and has gained fans across the country as he led each of those three teams to victory. Many basketball lovers consider LeBron James to be one of the greatest players of all time. But how did LeBron come to be "King James?" Find out all about LeBron's childhood, how he started playing basketball at the age of nine, and went on to rule the court in this new book for young readers!.



Data deep dive: Who is reading & Top 10

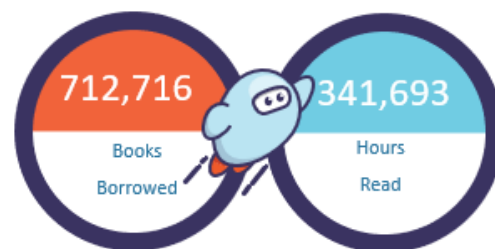
School is back in session, and we are thrilled to see the #'s of checkouts and hours read! The latest data is below, but you also have access to this data for your district. If you would like to learn how to access your own usage data, please reach out to [Jody](#).

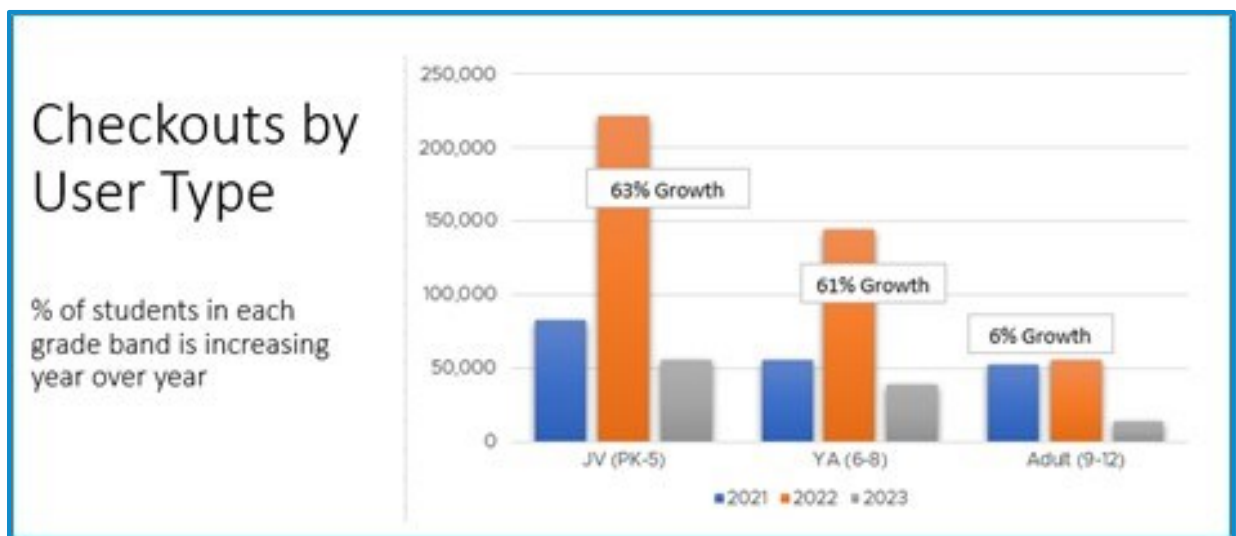
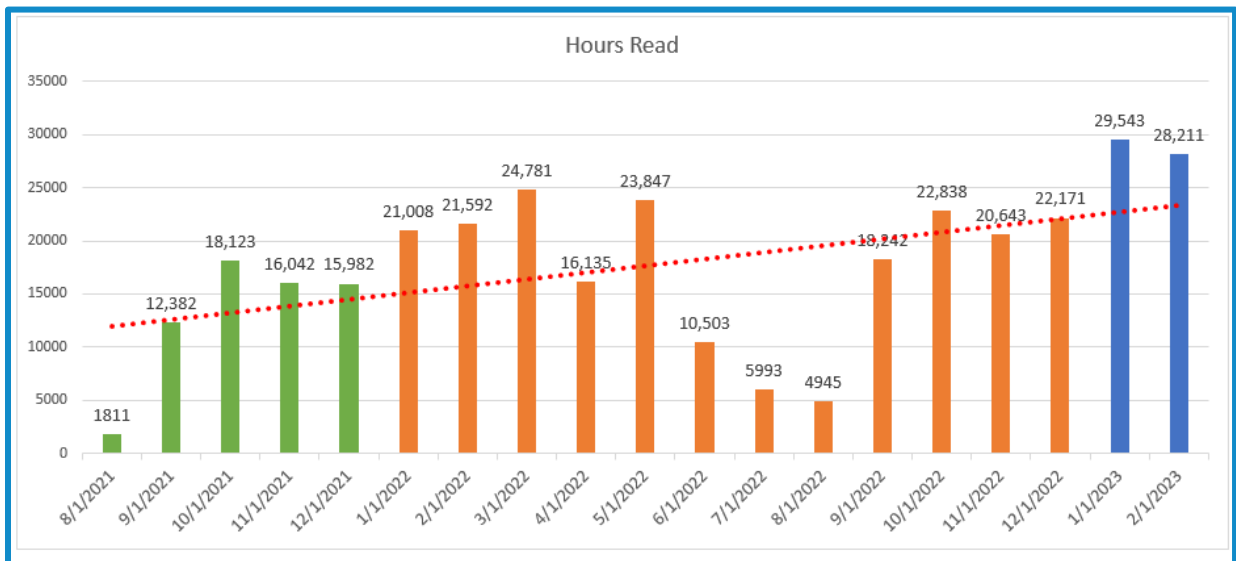
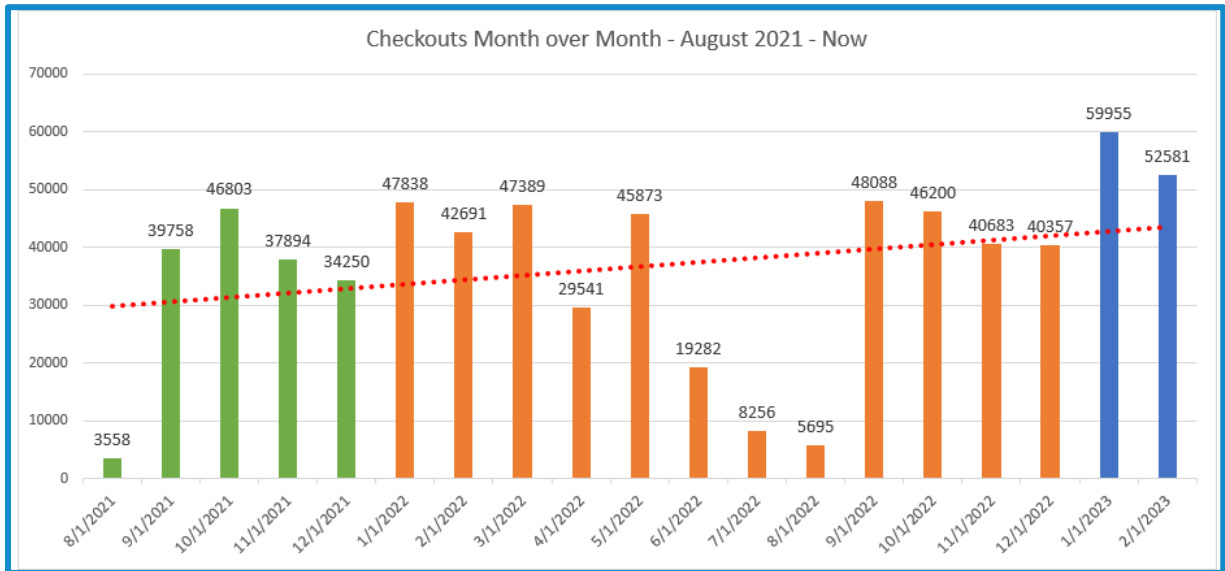
Checkouts & Hours read since inception – 5/17/2021

Let's look at 2023 data!

February 1 - 28, 2023

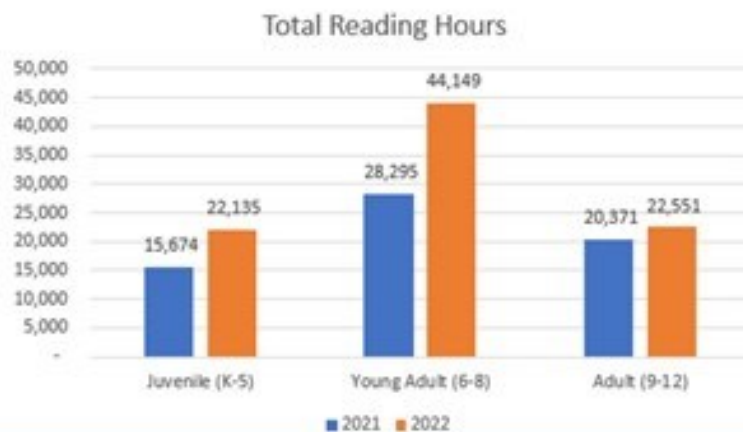
- 52,581 checkouts!
- 28,211 hours read!





Engagement by User Type

- K-5: YoY Growth = 29%
- 6-8 YoY Growth = 36%

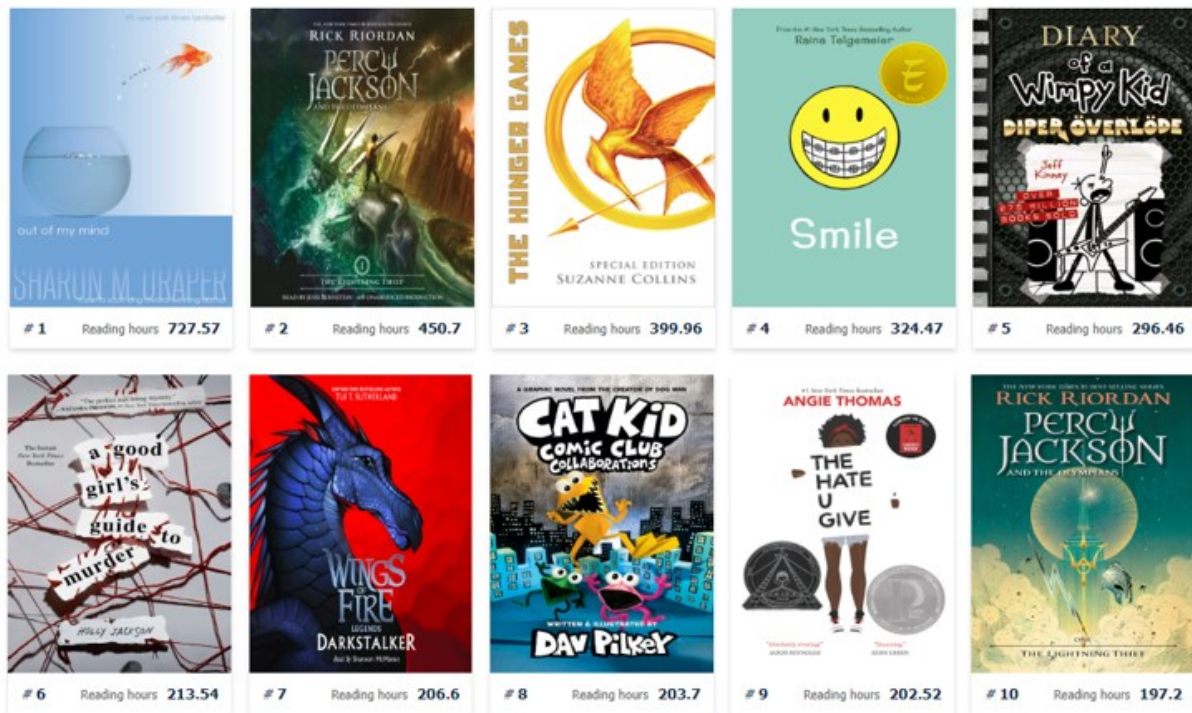


Top 10 Titles by Checkout for Month - February 2023

Total checkouts 4,411



Top 10 Titles by hours Read – February 2023



School District	School	Books opened	Time read hrs:mns:sec
Indian River School District	Georgetown Middle School	148	830:29:00
Brandywine School District	Claymont Elementary School	147	797:02:00
Appoquinimink School District	Appoquinimink High School	37	727:09:00
Capital School District	Dover High School	114	681:23:00
First State Montessori Academy	First State Montessori Academy	7	494:23:00
Christina School District	Shue-Medill Middle School	64	415:27:00
Indian River School District	Selbyville Middle School	100	354:20:00
Indian River School District	Georgetown Elementary School	7	338:09:00
Colonial School District	Gunning Bedford Middle School	63	337:02:00
Colonial School District	Gunning Bedford Middle School	39	299:25:00
Red Clay Consolidated School District	Conrad Schools Of Science	60	297:32:00
Indian River School District	Indian River High School	45	293:00:00
Indian River School District	Selbyville Middle School	21	288:58:00
Colonial School District	Gunning Bedford Middle School	42	277:56:00
Appoquinimink School District	Cedar Lane Elementary School	98	276:21:00
Capital School District	Dover High School	42	275:47:00
Red Clay Consolidated School District	Dupont (H.B.) Middle School	50	271:33:00
Christina School District	Marshall Elementary School	114	269:12:00
Newark Charter School	Junior High Campus Students	89	258:26:00
Indian River School District	Selbyville Middle School	34	251:26:00

Want to get the most out of Sora! Schedule a PD or 1:1 ZOOM!

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 or Bailey or feel free to book directly via our calendar links below.



[Jody Brookshire](#)



[Bailey Hotujac](#)

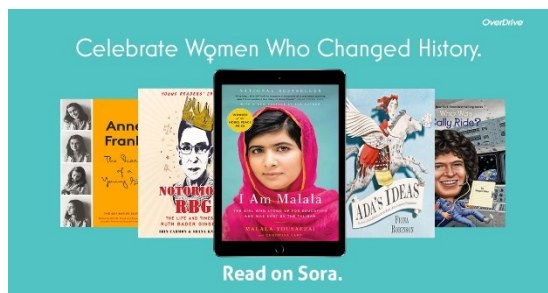
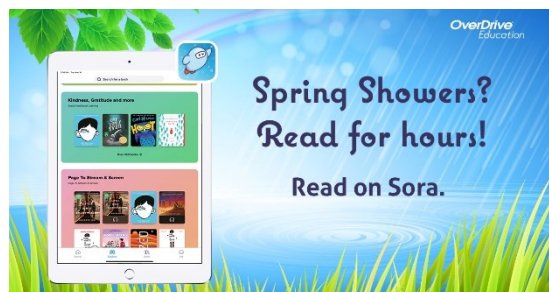


Join us for the following upcoming Webinars:

- **Sora Essentials: The Reader Experience**
 - When: March 8, 12:00 pm EST
 - Register Here: https://overdrive.zoom.us/webinar/register/WN_4g0WeIGvTlq94pdoRnXmdg

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.



Thank you for reading!

Your Sora Team: Jody, Bailey, Sarah, Cara & Morgan