



# Sora

The student reading app

## Soar with Sora

Monthly Newsletter

November 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.

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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/>

### Sora Spotlight – How are you engaging your readers.

Our recurring Sora Spotlight series features a wide range of educators who've become Sora champions at their school, impressing us with their innovative methods for implementing the reading app and engaging with their students. We know many of you have been igniting the love of reading and would love for you to share your examples. If interested, please reach out to [Jody Brookshire](#) or [Cara Leach](#) with next steps. In the meantime, we hope the below story inspires you to find new ways to reach your readers!



**OverDrive**  
Education



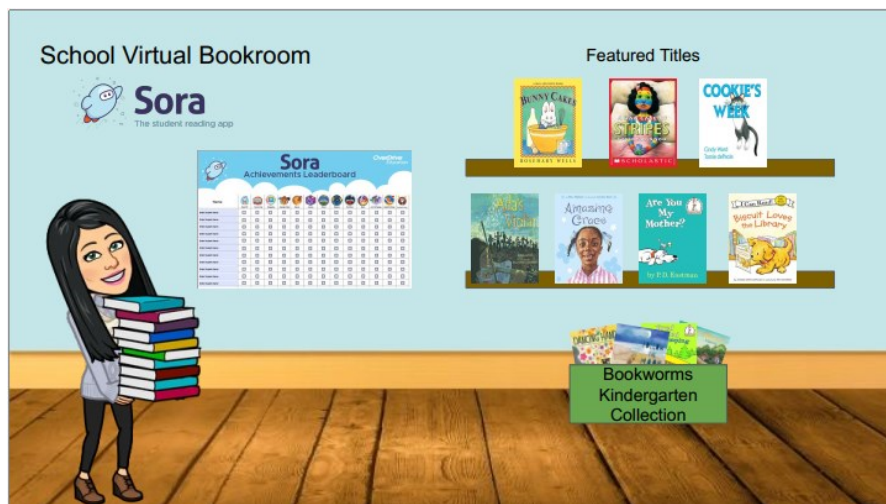
Follow us on social! @sorareadingapp

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

Read Sora Spotlight here: <https://company.overdrive.com/2022/10/27/sora-spotlight-susan-young-librarian-at-pinewood-elementary-ne/>

**Pro-Tip:** Want to feature certain titles in your classroom or in Schoology? Create a virtual book room using direct links to the titles you want your students to access.

Making a virtual book room is easy. Every title or collection in Sora has a direct URL that you can link. You can also right mouse click on any title image and either copy it or save it image. Learn more about how to create these cool virtual book rooms here: [Recording\\_1920x1080.mp4](#)



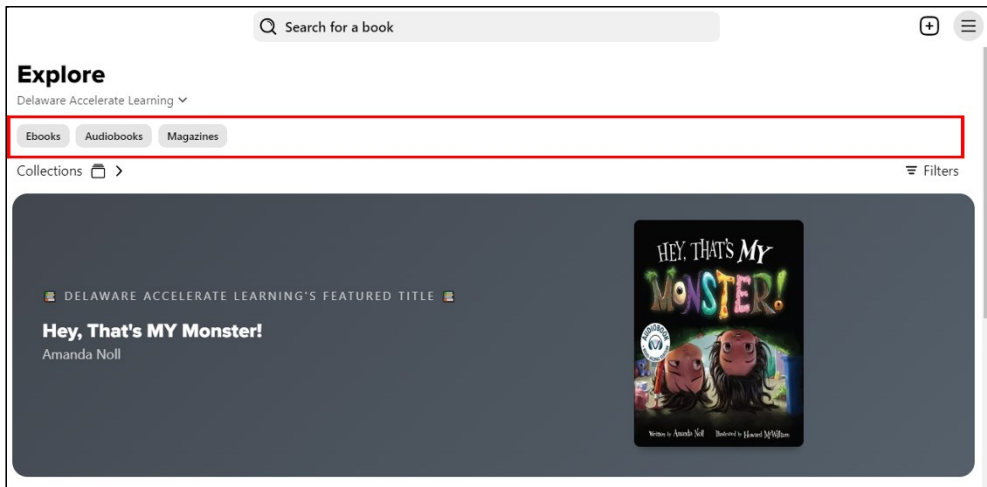
Would you like us to create a custom direct link document for your teachers. Here is a sample of one created for Caesar Rodney School District using ARC Theme's. [ARC Themes with Links in Sora.pdf](#)

	Reading Focus	Final Writing Product(s)	Focus Standards	Standards In All Units
Literacy Lab (100 Book Challenge)	Literature & Informational	Narrative & Argumentative Essay	R.1, R.4, R.10, W.9, W.10	Reading #1, #4, #7, #9, #10 Writing #4-10
Informational	Informational	Informational Text/Book	R.2, R.5, R.7, W.2	Speaking & Listening #1-6 Language #1-6
Genre Study	Literature	Literary Essay & Short Story	R.2, R.3, R.5, R.9	
Argument	Informational	Argumentative Essay	R.6, R.8, W.1	

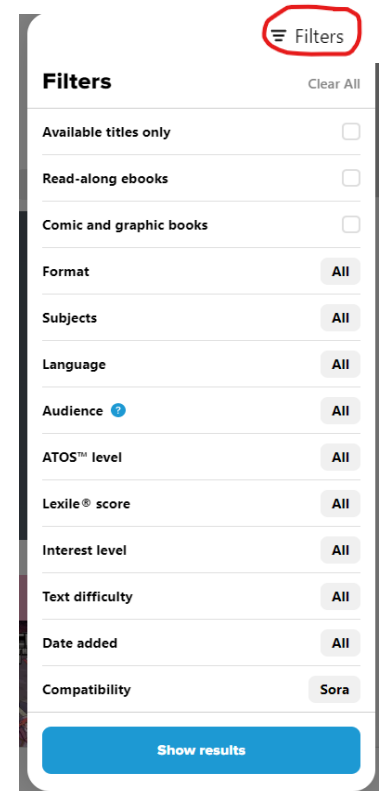
	Unit 1 ARC Literacy Labs*	Unit 2	Unit 3	Unit 4
Grade K	<a href="#">Thinking Like a Scientist!</a>	<b>Zoology</b>	<b>Ecology</b>	<b>Entomology</b>
Grade 1	<b>Mapping My World</b>	<b>WILD AND ENDANGERED ANIMALS</b>	<b>Family Stories &amp; Families</b>	<b>Plants</b>
Grade 2	<a href="#">Words Change the World</a>	<b>Bugs in their ecosystems</b>	<b>ANIMAL STORIES &amp; Animals</b>	<b>Jobs in My COMMUNITY</b>

## New filters simplify finding the right book

Sora's latest update streamlines the filtering process, helping students more easily find the right content in the digital collection. Both Filters and Preferences are now part of one cohesive experience, accessible from the top right Filters menu on any page within the Explore tab.



Sora's updated Filters menu lets students refine the collection making it easier to get to the types of books they like. Students can filter for read-alongs, comics and graphic novels or even specific formats like audiobooks. They can also filter by subjects of interest, content in other languages, and more. Additionally, filters are now **sticky**: once a filter is set, it will apply to all displayed content until you remove it. To remove or adjust applied filters, return to the Filters menu, or simply deselect the filter from the top of the page. Click on the FILTERS button in the upper left corner to set your filters.

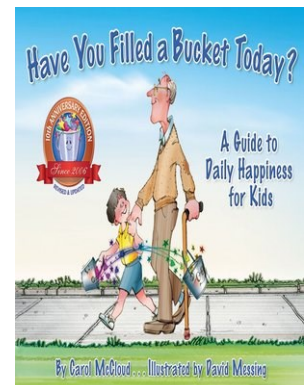


**PRO TIP:** Help your early readers limit their results by filtering their content to only show readalongs or certain lexile or interest levels.

## This Month's Featured Title: *Have You Filled a Bucket Today?*

By Carol McCloud, David Messing

While using a simple metaphor of a bucket and a dipper, author Carol McCloud illustrates that when we choose to be kind, we not only fill the buckets of those around us, but also fill our OWN bucket! Conversely, when we choose to say or do mean things, we are dipping into buckets. All day long, we are either filling up or dipping into each other's buckets by what we say and what we do. When you're a bucket filler, you make the world a better place to be. This 32-page picture book is perfect for children, parents, grandparents, teachers and people that want to teach empathy, nurture kindness and create a positive environment in their home, classroom, workplace and community.





## Updated seasonal curated collections

- [Festival of Words](#)
- [Gobble up a Good Book!](#)
- [National Native American Heritage Month](#)

Festival of Words is a free, annual event for secondary students, teachers & librarians. The event takes place on Saturday, December 3<sup>rd</sup> from 8:30 – 3:30 at St. George's Technical High School. Your Sora digital library is already celebrating with a curated list of the featured authors. Learn more about the event here:

<https://sites.google.com/wsd.k12.de.us/fowdelaware/home>.

Check out the featured curation ([Festival of Words](#)) & borrow a book in Sora before meeting the authors in person.



**Added 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](mailto:swilsman@overdrive.com) if titles are missing.

**Coming Soon:** Reading Wonders K-5

## More Fall Featured Titles

**For High School (9-12)**

***Heartstopper Yearbook*** by Alice Oseman

The Heartstopper Yearbook is packed full of exclusive content from the Heartstopper universe: never-before-seen illustrations, an exclusive minicomic, character profiles, trivia, and insight into Alice Oseman's creative process, narrated by a cartoon version of Alice herself. In full-color for the first time, this companion book is perfect for fans of Heartstopper!

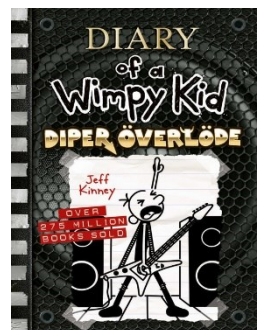


**For Elementary / Middle School (6-8)**

***Diary of a Wimpy Kid – Diper Överlöde, Book 17*** by Jeff Kinney

In Diper Överlöde, book 17 of the Diary of a Wimpy Kid series from #1 international bestselling author Jeff Kinney, Greg Heffley is finding out that the road to fame and glory comes with some hard knocks.

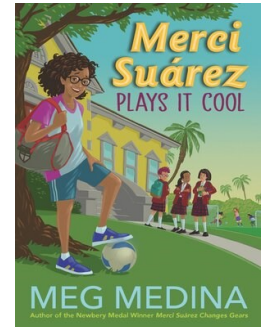
When he decides to tag along with his brother Rodrick's band, Löded Diper, Greg doesn't realize what he's getting into. But he soon learns that late nights, unpaid gigs, fighting between band members, and money troubles are all part of the rock 'n' roll lifestyle.



Can Greg help Löded Diper become the legends they think they are? Or will too much time with Rodrick's band be a diper överlöde?

***Merci Suarez Plays it Cool*** by Meg Medina

For Merci Suárez, eighth grade means a new haircut, nighttime football games, and an out-of-town overnight field trip. At home, it means more chores and keeping an eye on Lolo as his health worsens. It's a year filled with more responsibility and independence, but also with opportunities to reinvent herself. Merci has always been fine with not being one of the popular kids like Avery Sanders, who will probably be the soccer captain and is always traveling to fun places and buying new clothes. But then Avery starts talking to Merci more, and not just as a teammate. Does this mean they're friends? Merci wants to play it cool, but with Edna always in her business, it's only a matter of time before Merci must decide where her loyalty stands.

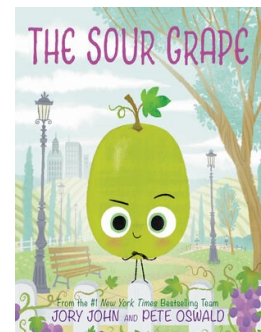


**For Elementary School (K-5)**

***The Sour Grape*** by Jory John, Pete Oswald

Don't miss the sixth picture book in the #1 New York Times bestselling Food Group series that's ripe with humor from Jory John and Pete Oswald!

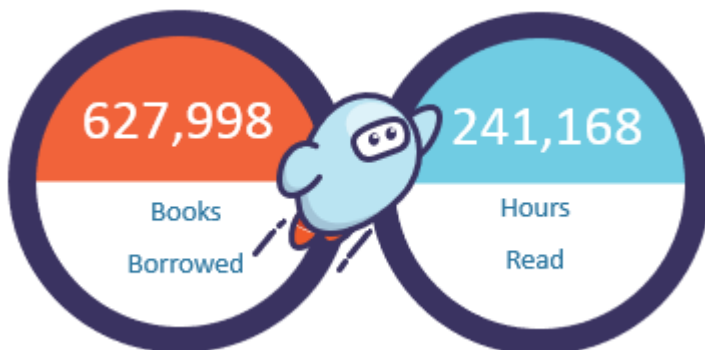
The Sour Grape holds grudges for every reason under the sun. Lime never returned a scarf they borrowed. Grudge! Orange never called back. Grudge! But when a friend holds a grudge against the Sour Grape without listening to an explanation, the Sour Grape realizes how unfair grudges can be. Could a bunch of forgiveness and compassion be enough to turn a sour grape sweet?



## 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 – 5/17/21**



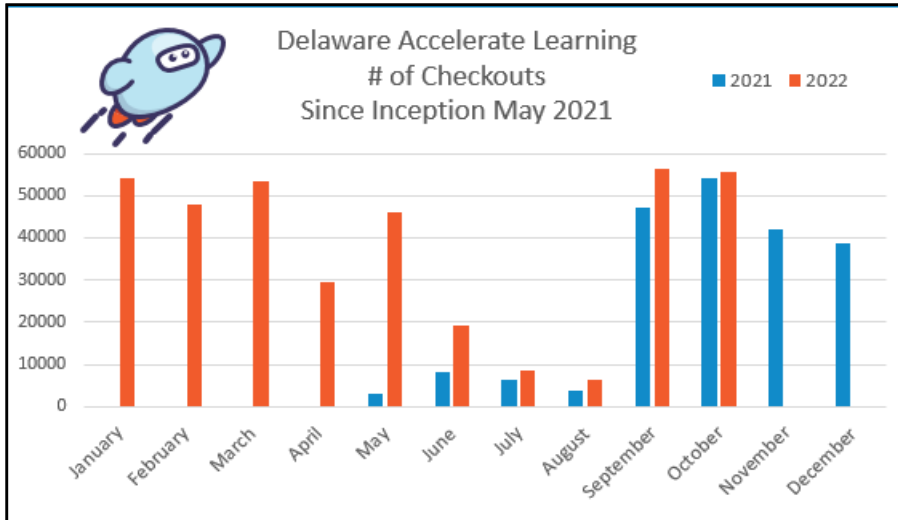
**Let's look at 2022 data!**

Data since January 1, 2022

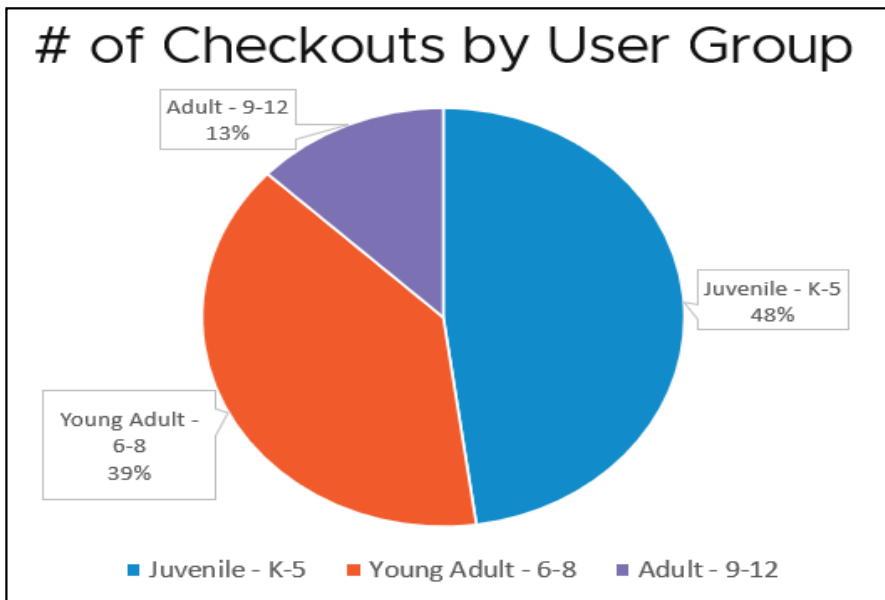
- 364,026 checkouts
- 169,924 hours read

October 1 - 31, 2022

- 46,270 checkouts!
- 22,823 hours read!



2022 #'s are higher than 2021



Elementary students were our biggest reader last month, followed by middle school students.

**Top 10 Readers for October**  
October 1 - 31, 2022

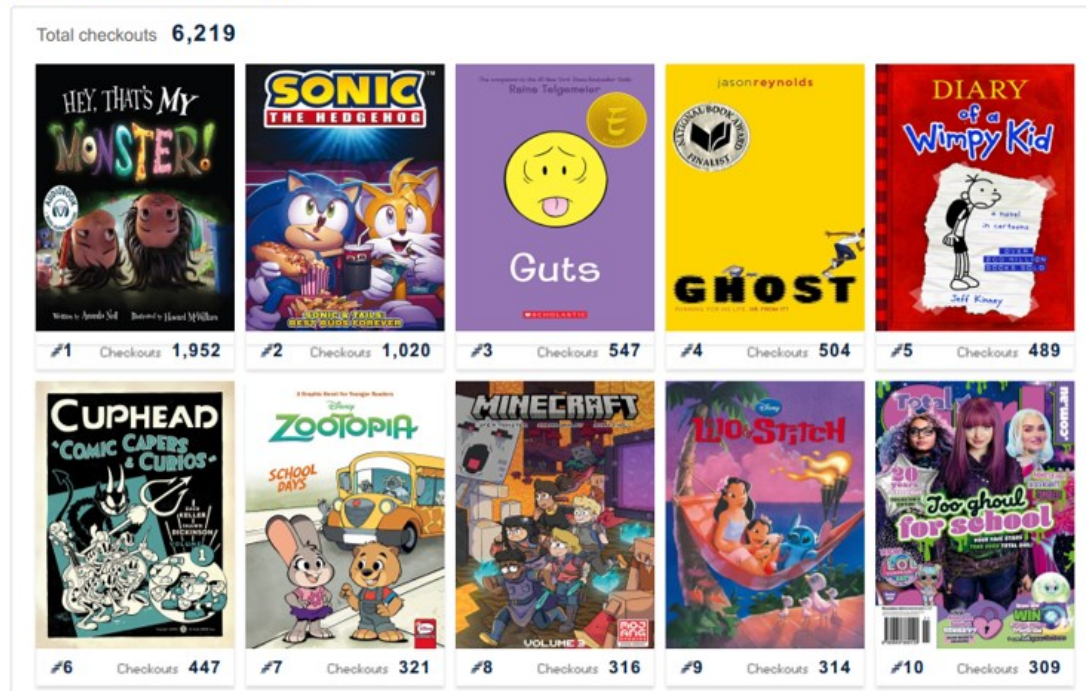
District	School	Books opened	Time read (hr, min, sec)
Indian River School District	Millsboro Middle School	7	164:27:00
Brandywine School District	Claymont Elementary School	28	135:15:00
Indian River School District	Georgetown Middle School	22	108:46:00
Capital School District	Dover High School	27	91:48:00
Capital School District	Dover High School	15	87:06:00
Colonial School District	Gunning Bedford Middle School	19	79:02:00
Appoquinimink School District	Appoquinimink High School	8	77:50:00
Indian River School District	Selbyville Middle School	38	73:14:00
Colonial School District	Gunning Bedford Middle School	14	66:02:00
Christina School District	Marshall Elementary School	48	63:23:00

Using the Student Dashboard, you can pull a report like this for your school.



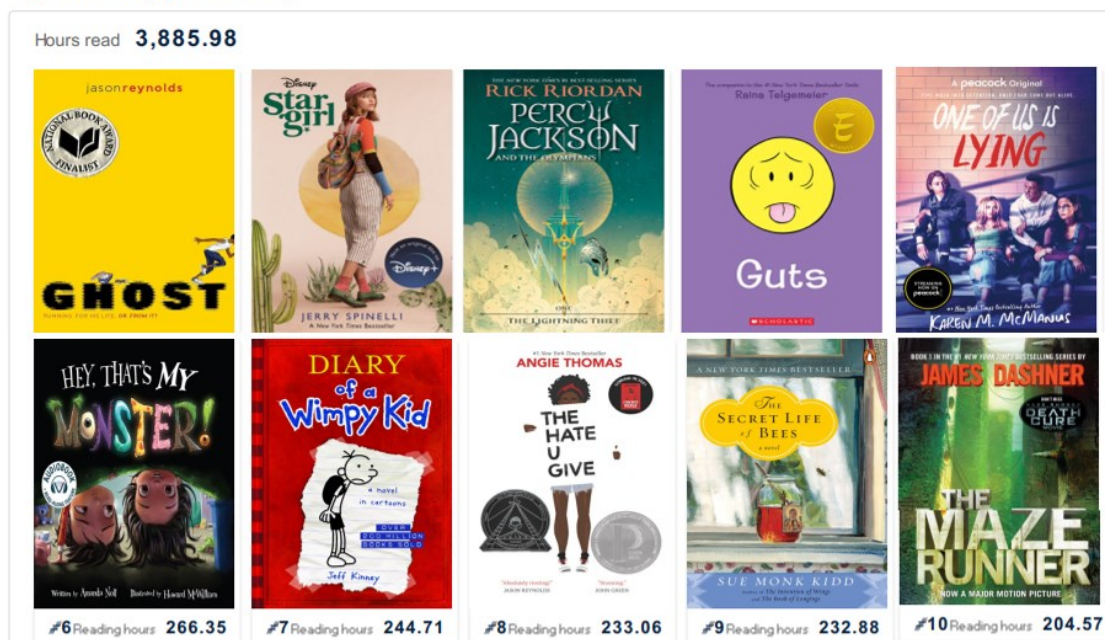
## Top 10 Titles by Checkouts – October 1 – 31, 2022

### Top 10 titles (by checkouts)



## Top 10 Titles by Read Time – October 1 - 31, 2022

### Top 10 titles (by time read)



## 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 Brookshire](#) or feel free to book directly via my calendar link.



[Jody Brookshire](#)



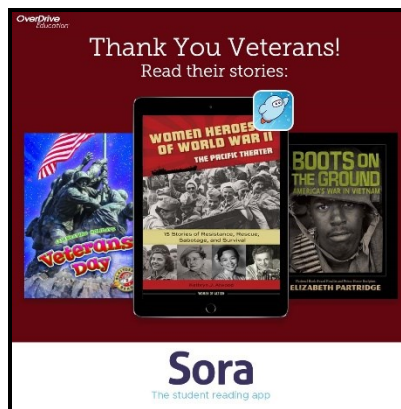
### Join us for the following upcoming Webinars:

Sora Essentials: Fall 2022 – November 16th - [Register Here](#)

Marketplace Essentials – Fall 2022 – October 6th – [Register Here](#)

## 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 <https://soraapp.com/library/deschools>
- -OR- Target your post content to a specific book using the [grab URL trick](#)
- Get [even more promo items](#) from the OverDrive Resource Center.

**Thank you for reading!**

**Your Sora Team: Jody, Joe, Victoria, Sarah & Cara**

