

# Soar with Sora

Monthly Newsletter

September 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 email newsletters to be the first to know about sales, new features, and updates about Sora right away: <u>https://forms.office.com/r/VjHqSnM0Fh</u>

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

## Check Sora for your Fall Reading Lists.

Your Sora team has been busy updating Sora will 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 <u>lody</u> or use our <u>Request a Title</u> form.

**ACTION ITEM**: Check **Sora** to ensure you have the titles & copy counts needed for Fall reading.







## A message from Sarah Wilsman, your OverDrive Digital Content Librarian

Our featured title for September is "Do your Bit to Be Physically Fit!" Sixty minutes of exercise a day is a habit children should get into at an early age. Not only does exercise build the body's strength and endurance, it helps prevent injury and improves concentration and mood. This engaging book explains the benefits of regular exercise and offers simple activities and advice on fitting fitness in during the day.



- <u>Hispanic Heritage Month: Unidos</u>
- Back to School
- Fall Jewish Holidays

Here are some updated seasoned curated collections

#### **Recommended Fall Titles**







#### A #1 NEW YORK TIMES BESTSELLER!

Featured in its own episode in the Netflix original show Bookmarks: Celebrating Black Voices! National Book Award winner Jacqueline Woodson and twotime Pura Belpré Illustrator Award winner Rafael López have teamed up to create a poignant, yet heartening book about finding courage to connect, even when you feel scared and alone.

There will be times when you walk into a room and no one there is quite like you.

Seventh grader Jordan Banks loves nothing more than drawing cartoons about his life. But instead of sending him to the art school of his dreams, his parents enroll him in a prestigious private school known for its academics, where Jordan is one of the few kids of color in his entire grade. As he makes the daily trip from his Washington Heights apartment to the upscale Riverdale Academy Day School, Jordan soon finds himself torn between two worlds—and not really fitting into either one

Boy meets boy. Boys become friends. Boys fall in love. A sweet and charming coming-of-age story that explores friendship, love, and coming out. This edition features beautiful two-color artwork.

Now streaming on Netflix!





## **Back to School Resources & Help**

- 1.) The OverDrive Resource Center has lots of blending learning resources to support reading. Click the links below to download and customize.
  - a. <u>Character Journals</u>
  - b. <u>Student activities</u>
  - c. <u>Lesson Planning</u>
- 2.) Share a direct link to the details page of a title from your schools' collection.
  - a. Post a title or collection to your <u>Google</u> <u>Classroom</u>.

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Harry Potter and the Half- Blood Prince J. K. Rowling	HARR POTTI



## **Reminder - Update the Student Dashboard**

August 1<sup>st</sup> 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

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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 <u>quick</u> <u>video</u> to walk you through how to create classes & monitor your student data.

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. 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.





## Data deep dive: who is reading & top 10

As we close a year of access to Sora, we have a lot to be proud about. We have seen over **315,822 books borrowed** and over **200,043 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 <u>lody</u>.





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

- 264,442 checkouts
- 129,622 hours read

### August 1 – August 31, 2022

- 6,276 checkouts!
- **4,943** hours read!





### Total time read





Solow us on social! @sorareadingapp



Total time read



## Books opened shows how engaged students are with what they are reading. 264,442 checkouts but some books opened more than once

#### Top 10 Titles by Checkout – August 1 – August 31, 2022



#### Top 10 titles (by checkouts)



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#### Top 10 titles (by time read)

#### **Top Readers for August 2022**

District	School	Books opened	Time read	
Appoquinimink School District	Appoquinimink High School	10	210:00:00	
Indian River School District	Georgetown Middle School	27	182:30:00	
Indian River School District	Georgetown Elementary School	1	181:54:00	
Red Clay Consolidated School District	Conrad Schools Of Science Cape Henlopen School District	15	111:16:00	
Indian River School District	Selbyville Middle School	12	76:00:00	
Capital School District Red Clay Consolidated School District	William Henry Middle School Linden Hill Elementary School	17	74:35:00 72:33:00	
Red Clay Consolidated School District	Dupont (H.B.) Middle School	10	67:56:00	
Brandywine School District	P.S. duPont Middle School	49	64:25:00	

Students are already hitting the 200-hour club with just one month of reading





## 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 <u>Jody Brookshire</u> or feel free to book directly via my calendar link.



Here are some other "notable" tutorials you may have missed.

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

## Use social media to engage more students

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









Read on Sora The Student Read

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

Read on Sora

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

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

Thanks for reading!

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





