

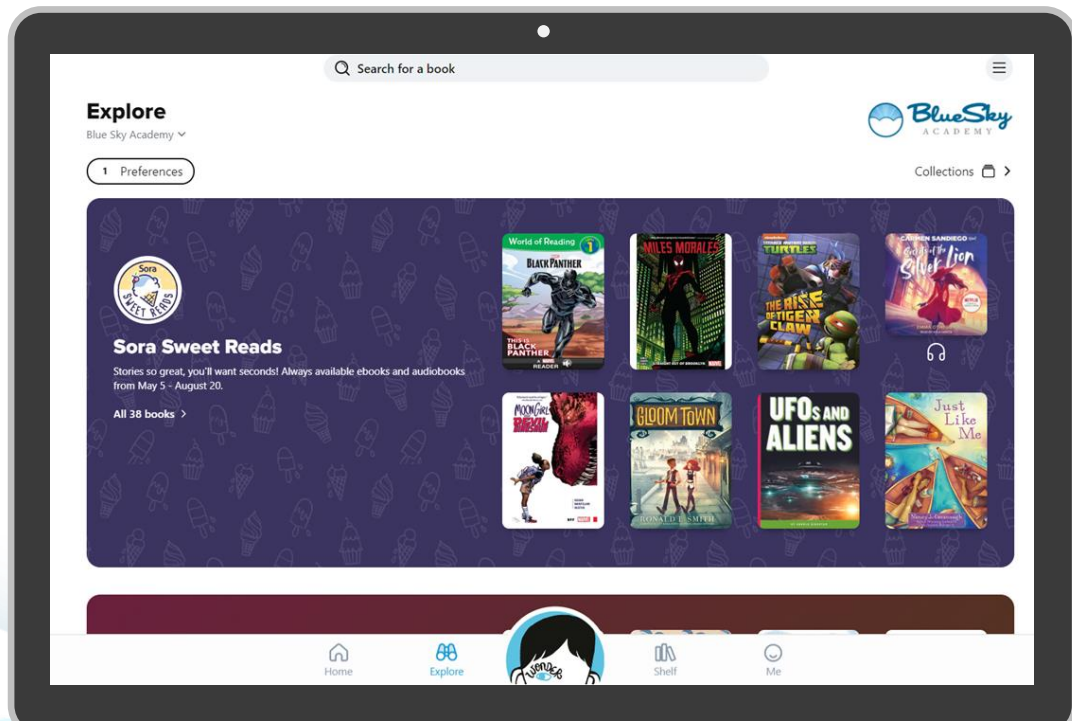


Strategies to Get Your School Community Reading with Sora

How one district leveraged Sora during the shift to remote learning, and continued engagement and utilization of the app once they shifted back.



What is Sora?



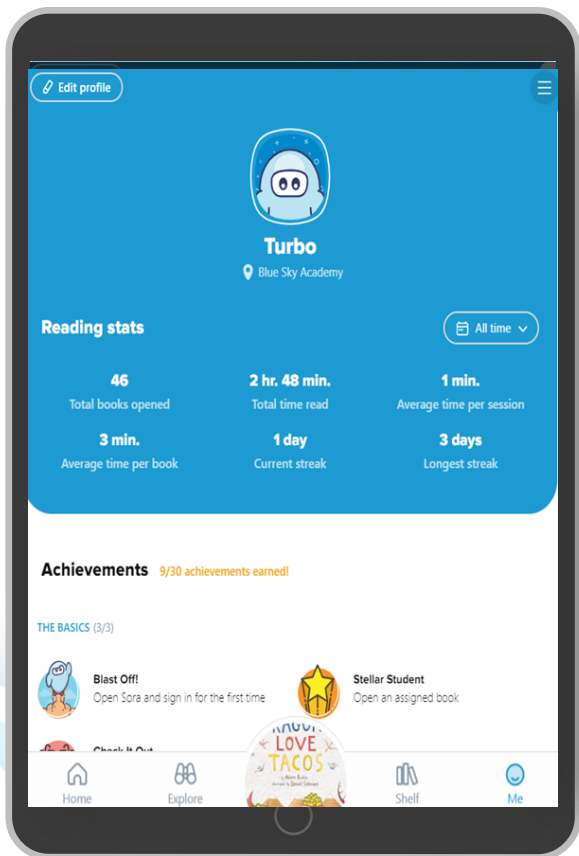
WHAT IS SORA?

Sora is the best way for students to access your school's digital collection.

soraapp.com
or download the app

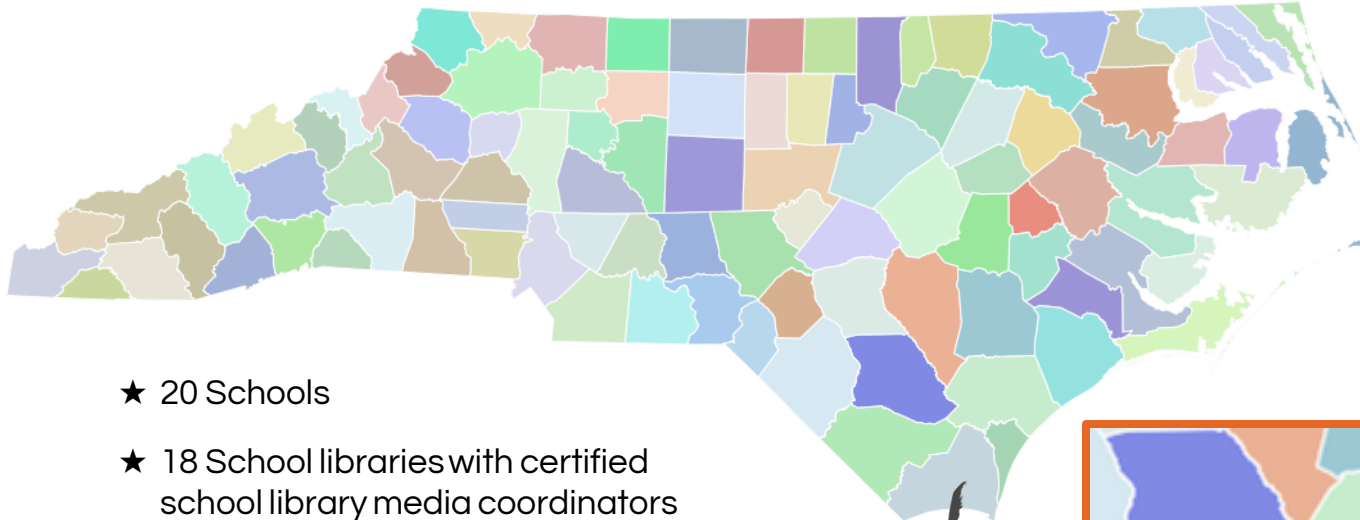


Sora features



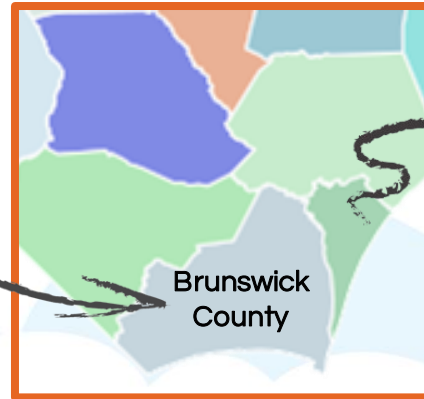
- Single-sign-on
- Multilingual interface
- Easy browse and borrow
- Title assignment capabilities
- Offline access
- Public library digital collection access
- Student Reading Data

About Brunswick County Schools



- ★ 20 Schools
- ★ 18 School libraries with certified school library media coordinators
- ★ 9 dedicated makerspaces...
- ★ ALL 18 have 3D printers!

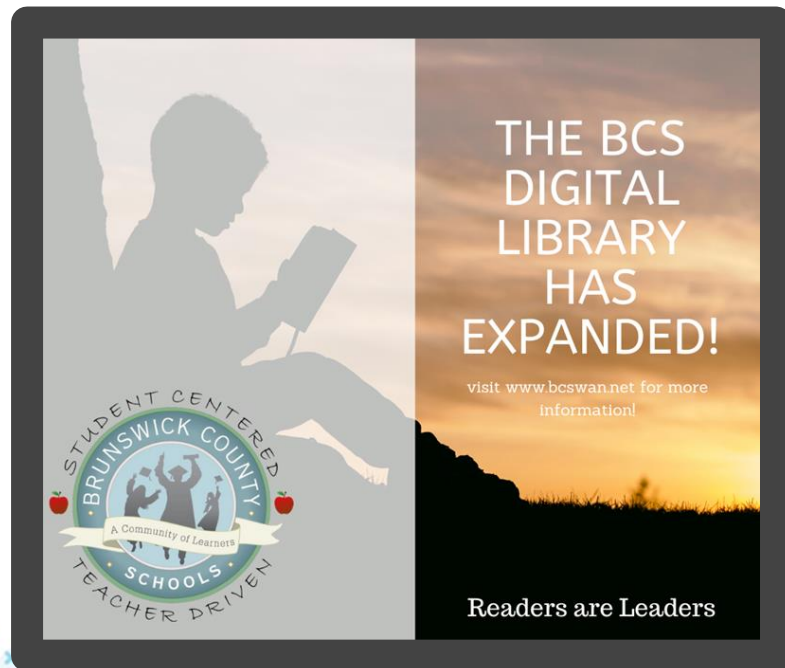
New Hanover County
Students: 25,000
Schools: 43



Brunswick County
Students: 12,000
Schools: 20



How it all began January 2019*



"Our goal is to create a culture of reading and a love for reading in Brunswick County Schools," Director of Instructional Technology Acacia Dixon said. "This digital library collection moves us in that direction by providing 24/7 access to a variety of self-selected reading materials that students and staff can enjoy. *While it will never replace our print collections, it will allow an alternative for students to access books on weekends, before and after school hours, and even during inclement weather.* We are excited to continue to grow this collection as a district and also to watch as individual schools grow their own collections."



How it all began January 2019

Brunswick County Schools maintains a district digital library with more than 4,260 ebooks and 978 audiobooks. Included in this is more than 260 Spanish language texts.

From picture books to novels, these resources are accessible on most devices including Chromebooks, computers, Kindles, iPhones, and Android phones.

All staff and students have access to resources using their district Google login credentials and content access is based on their grade level. Staff has access to all resources.



How it all began Jan-June 2019 - data

Summary

1/1/2019 to 6/14/2019

All formats 

14,231

1,979

Total unique users

14,231

Total checkouts

4,475


Total holds

 Ebook	10,243	3,013
 Audiobook	3,988	1,462
 Magazine	0	0
 External service	0	0



How it all began Spring and Summer 2019

BRUNSWICK COUNTY SCHOOLS
CELEBRATES SCHOOL LIBRARY MONTH




BCS PRINT LIBRARIES

- Include 273,312 copies.
- Have circulated 197,511 titles this school year.

BCS MAKERSPACES


Many of our libraries include makerspaces that allow students to engineer, create, design and develop products and ideas.




BCS DIGITAL LIBRARY

- Has circulated 26,943 books this school year.
- Has tracked 8,786 hours of reading.
- Includes 3,083 ebook titles and 728 audio book titles.

JOIN THIS MONTH AS WE SPOTLIGHT OUR LIBRARIES!



Here We Grow!



BRUNSWICK COUNTY SCHOOLS, NC
www.bcswan.net

STUDENT SUMMER READING CHALLENGE

You can be a (Movie) Star Summer Reader!!



READ BOOKS

CREATE BOOK TRAILER

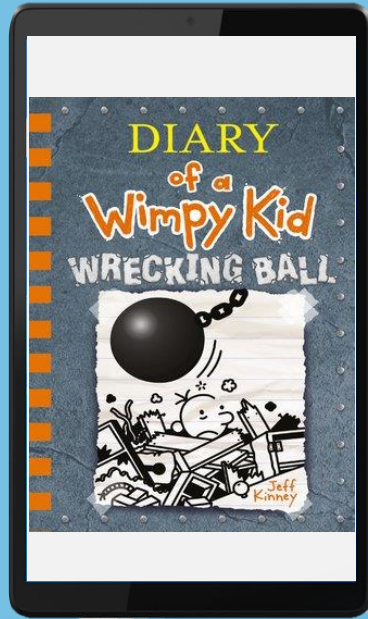
WIN PRIZES

How it all began



TM

Last Chance to Enter to Win the Tablet!



Sora in our Elementary Schools



A Sora Scavenger Hunt, like the one used by Ms. Coursey, and other engagement resources, can be found [HERE](#).



"During the first week of March 2020, I did a Sora promotion where every student who completed a Sora scavenger hunt was entered into a drawing to ride along with either the principal or assistant principal in golf cart races on our soccer field. The kids loved it and our Sora numbers were never better!"

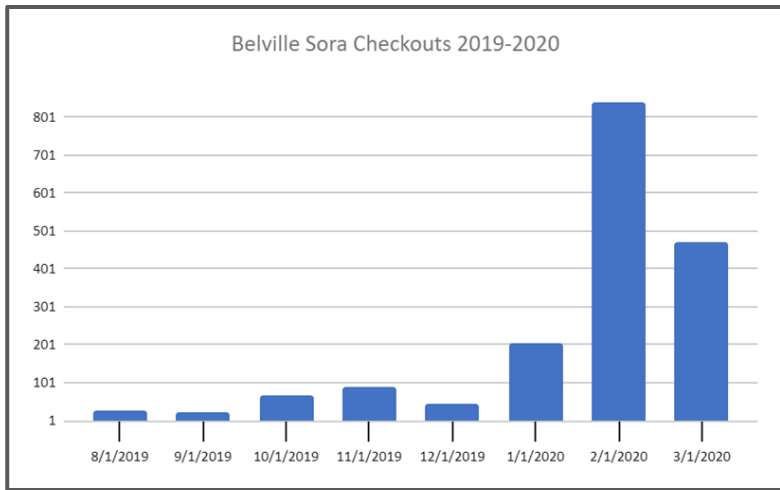
"Luckily, the golf cart races had been scheduled for what would become our last day of school for the year due to COVID-19 - Friday March 13."

-Jennifer Coursey

Media Specialist at Belville Elementary



Speaking of COVID-19...



“Currently, Belville is number one in Brunswick County for eBook circulation with 254 eBooks checked out in the past month. Increasing student use of eBooks

was fortunate for students who can now continue to checkout and read eBooks even while schools and the media center are closed.

Interestingly a report of eBook circulations for the first week of schools being closed for the pandemic show Belville continuing to have the highest circulation in Brunswick County.


I have learned the importance of increasing students' use of the digital books and hope to continue to promote them in the future.”

-Jennifer Coursey

Media Specialist at Belville Elementary
Year-end summary

BRUNSWICK COUNTY SCHOOLS

REMOTE LEARNING DATA COVID-19




4,287

Devices distributed to families.

77% OF K-8 STUDENTS HAVE LOGGED ON TO EDUCATIONAL RESOURCES

Highest school average: Jessie Mae Monroe Elementary = 90%
Highest grade level average: 4th grade = 88.2%




2,652 DIGITAL BOOKS CHECKED OUT

1,131 HOURS SPENT READING

2,649 VIRTUAL MEETINGS CONDUCTED


26,599 participants
33,583,522 minutes
625 Google Classrooms created
Over 1,000 Google Classrooms accessed daily




OVER 500 TECH SUPPORT CALLS ANSWERED + EMAIL REQUESTS

1,900 SUPPORT VIDEO VIEWS


192 FILTER REQUESTS



MORE THAN 1,900 HOURS OF DIGITAL LEARNING PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT COMPLETED



HERE WE GROW!



BRUNSWICK COUNTY SCHOOLS, NC
www.bcswan.net



TM

Sora in our Middle Schools

A student on the Battle of the Books team was going on a cruise with his family during break. Luggage was tight and he would not have internet during the trip. The parents were able to download two books so he was able to read them during his trip!

Students prefer the Dyslexic font. Even students who are not diagnosed with dyslexia feel as if it helps them with the reading.

The class sets are a great way to have a book accessible for all students no matter if they are at school or away. The online portal gives me stats of progress made and time in the book.*

-Jenni Gillam

Media Specialist, South Brunswick Middle School

**while this was great, it also provided us reflection points..*

"I love that Sora automatically returns the book when it is due. It makes me feel better that I do not have to worry about remembering to return it!"

SOUTH BRUNSWICK MIDDLE SCHOOL
MEDIA CENTER

Fall Reading Challenge

- Fiction book with an ugly cover
- Book that is first in a series
- Nonfiction book of your choice
- Any digital book from SORA

Read a book from each category and complete the Google form via the QR code below or Mrs. Gillam's page.

***You may read print or digital books to fulfill the reading requirements.

Due October 22nd



SBMS eighth grader

WINTER READING CHALLENGE

- A magazine from SORA.
- A book with a one-word title.
- A book that is less than 100 pages.

Due January 7th, 2022

To complete the challenge, read from each category, then fill out the form posted in Mrs. Gillam's Google Class.

Sora in our High Schools

Throughout the school year, high school students participate in Sora challenges. Displays are set up in the media center and posters adorn the hallways.




Process:

- Media specialists at each grade band review the books before we shared.
- Information is shared via an all district email
- Information is shared via our final Digital Learning Newsletter (May) for 2021-2022.
- Shared on social media. #BCSEdChat #SoraSweetReads







Where we are now Jan-June 2022 - data


Summary

1/1/2019 to 6/14/2019
All formats 

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1,979	14,231	4,475
Total unique users	Total checkouts	Total holds
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 Magazine	0	0
 External service	0	0

2019



Summary

1/1/2022 to 6/10/2022
All formats 

22,130

3,433	22,130	3,512
Total unique users	Total checkouts	Total holds
 Ebook	17,573	3,093
 Audiobook	2,518	419
 Magazine	2,039	0
 External service	0	0

2022



Twitter: @jeannietimken
Twitter: @brunscoschools

#BCSBack2Business
#BCSCommunityOfLearners
#BCSEdChat

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/bcs.nc>



Thank You

