



# **SORA TIPS FOR SUCCESS**

## **WITH A CONSORTIUM COLLECTION**



<https://tinyurl.com/vbsora>



# **VIRGINIA BEACH CITY PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

86 Schools

~ 63,000 students

Suburban Community in  
Virginia Beach, VA

<https://tinyurl.com/vbsora>

# OUR SORA TIMELINE

## SPRING 2021

- ESSER Funding for secondary schools Sora consortium collection - \$175,000
- Inception of division committee

## NOVEMBER 2021

- Initial purchase of e-books and audiobooks for secondary schools
- Rollout to secondary

## WINTER 2022

- Rollout to elementary
- Elementary committee member training

## CURRENT STATS

- Collection: 6,621 titles and 4,852 copies owned (e-books, audiobooks and magazines)
- Last 30 days: 9,526 checkouts and 2,603 unique users

# DIVISION COMMITTEE

```
graph TD; DC[DIVISION COMMITTEE] --> WHY[WHY]; DC --> HOW[HOW]; WHY --> WHY_BOX[Buy-In, Assistance, Input / Feedback]; WHY_BOX --> HOW_BOX[Training provided by Sora, Bi-monthly virtual meetings, One-on-one refresher trainings];
```

## WHY

- Buy-In
- Assistance
- Input / Feedback

## HOW

- Training provided by Sora
- Bi-monthly virtual meetings
- One-on-one refresher trainings

# COMMITTEE TASK #1: PURCHASING

## Must-have books

October Comics Sale - 2023 Releases

October Comics Sale - Juvenile & YA

2023 MG & YA Debut Authors

Halloween & Horror Sale - Juvenile & YA

Land of LEGO J/YA

[View all must-haves](#) >

## Discover

OverDrive's top authors  
See what you're missing

OverDrive's most popular series  
Not in your collection >

OverDrive's most popular adult titles  
Not in your collection >

OverDrive's most popular YA titles  
Not in your collection >

OverDrive's most popular juvenile  
titles  
Not in your collection >

[Titles in my collection](#)

- Reviewing sales, "Must-have books," and "Discover" collections
- Vetting materials in carts curated in OD Marketplace for us
- Vetting special subscription collections
- Help with renewals
- Reviewing purchase recommendations from other LMSs ([Google Form](#))

## Cart Process

The screenshot shows the 'Pinned carts' section of the OverDrive Marketplace. It contains three cart cards, each with a title, a 'Cart Type: Select List' dropdown, and a 'PURCHASE' button. The first card, 'PURCHASE ES/MS/HS', is highlighted in orange and shows '1 standard unit' for '\$24.99'. The second card, 'PURCHASE MS/HS', shows '1 standard unit' for '\$15.00'. The third card, 'PURCHASE HS ONLY', shows '0 standard units' for '\$0.00'. All cards indicate they were last edited on 10/5/2023 by Jennifer Clements.

Cart Title	Cart Type	Standard Units	Price	Last Edited	Editor	Action
PURCHASE ES/MS/HS	Select List	1	\$24.99	10/5/2023	Jennifer Clements	PURCHASE
PURCHASE MS/HS	Select List	1	\$15.00	10/5/2023	Jennifer Clements	PURCHASE
PURCHASE HS ONLY	Select List	0	\$0.00	9/29/2023	Jennifer Clements	PURCHASE

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# COMMITTEE TASK #2: CURATING

Create Collection

Collection type:

☒ Curated  
Hand-picked titles typically based on a theme. Ex: Holiday Favorites, *Gone Girl* Readalikes

☐ Automated  
Auto-populating collection based on specific criteria. Ex: Newly Added, Most Popular Audiobooks

\* Collection name

Collection description

☐ Pin as main collection

**NEXT** **CANCEL**

Create custom collections by manually adding titles or importing invoices

Pets

Summary

Enter a collection name and description in each language you support.

Language  
English (Default)

Changes to the collection name and description will only affect the selected language.

Collection name  
Between 2 and 100 characters; visible to end users.

Pets

Collection description  
Up to 300 characters; this may be visible to end users.

Availability filter  
Show all titles, but show available first

Sort by  
Title

This collection will only include titles that match your selections in the following fields.

Format  
Ebook

Audience  
Juvenile Fiction

BISAC subject

Selected BISAC subjects: 0.

Enter a BISAC subject or code

☐ Medical (2) ☐ Dogs (2)  
☐ Music (1) ☐ Essays & Narratives  
☐ Nature (10)  
☐ Self-Help (8)  
☐ Social Science (22)  
☐ Sports & Recreation (7)  
☐ Study Aids (4)  
☐ Technology &

Maturity level  
Juvenile

Magazine subject

Language

Publisher

Create automated collections by using specific criteria

## New Additions

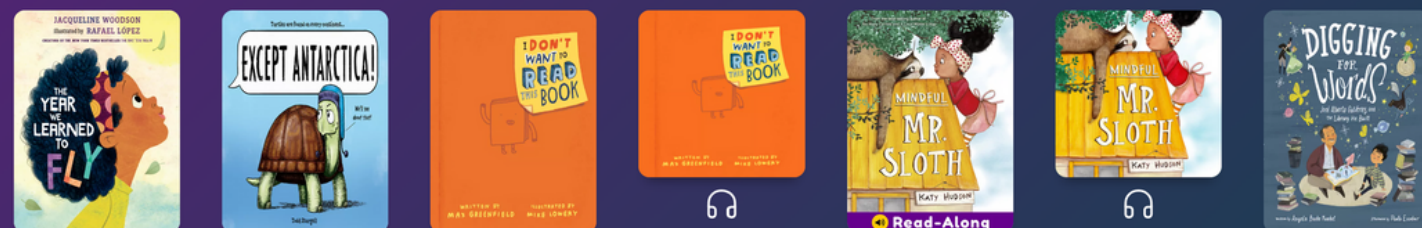
Check out the newest additions to the collection!

Over 220 books >



## ES Virginia Readers' Choice 2023-2024

Check out these Virginia Readers' Choice books!



All 25 books >

## Comics Always Available

All Access Comics



Over 2,000 books >

<https://tinyurl.com/vbsora>

# COMMITTEE TASK #3: PROMOTING

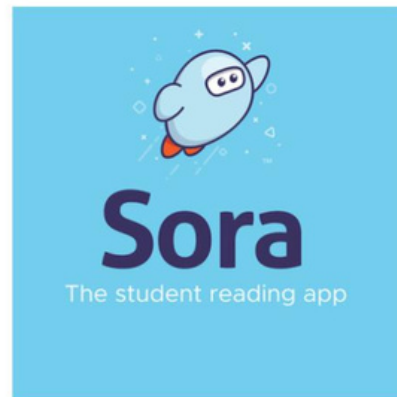
Can't find what you want on the shelf?



Borrow it in Sora.

Access through Classlink > eBooks  
or download Sora app to your phone  
(access code: vbva)

Access Sora  
Through Your  
VBCPS Account  
Video Tutorials



VBCPS-Specific  
Instructions  
Documents

## SORA BASICS

Welcome to Virginia Beach Public Schools' collection of e-books and audiobooks that your student can access to independently read on their own device. Here are access instructions and Sora basics.

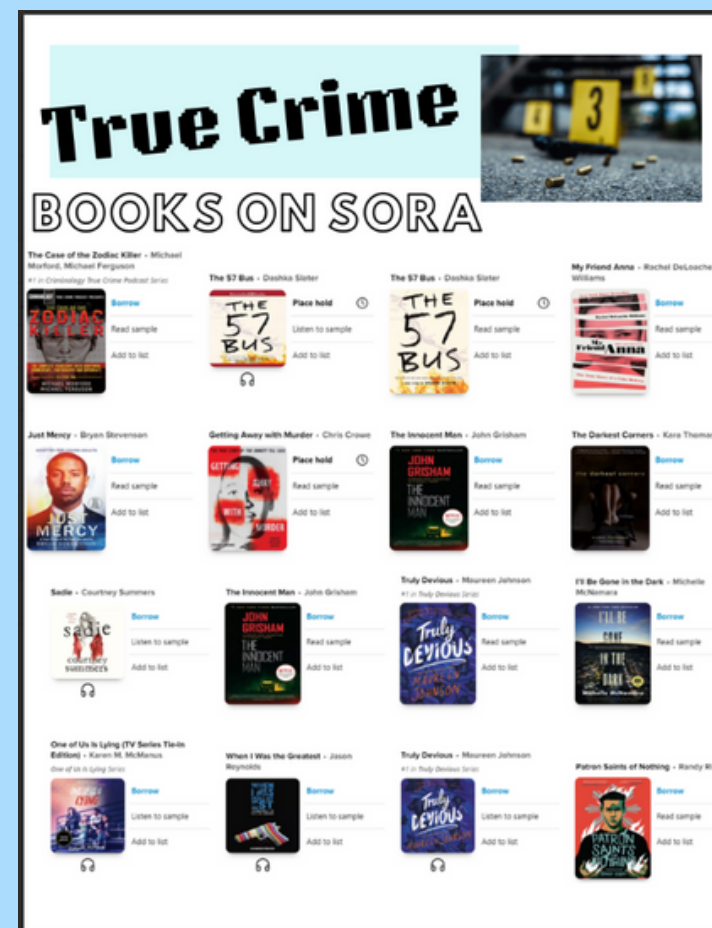
### To Access Sora on a VBCPS Chromebook:

1 - Log into Classlink, and search "Sora" on the search bar in the upper right.	
2 - Click "Sign in using Virginia Beach City Public Schools," and you will be logged into your Sora account.	
3 - When asked whether or not to add Sora as a shortcut, click 'Cancel'.	

### To Access Sora Via the Sora App on a Tablet or Phone, or Via a Web Browser (not on a VBCPS Chromebook):

1- App: Download the Sora app from either the Google Play Store or the Apple App Store. Web Browser: Go to <a href="http://soraapp.com">soraapp.com</a> .	
2 - When you open the app, click on "I have a setup code" located at the bottom instead of "Find my school." Enter the set-up code <b>vbva</b> , and click "Get Started."	
3 - Tap on the green button that says "Sign into Va. Beach City Public Schools."	
4 - Tap "Continue" on the pop-up.	
4 - Log into Classlink to access your Sora account.	

Verbiage for  
morning  
announcements  
and emails



Mystery  
Adventure  
Romance

All in the palm  
of your hand.



Sora

The student reading app  
for eBooks & audiobooks

Access through Classlink > eBooks  
or download Sora app to your phone  
(access code: vbva)

<https://tinyurl.com/vbsora>

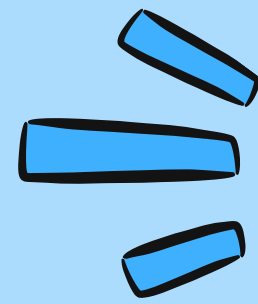




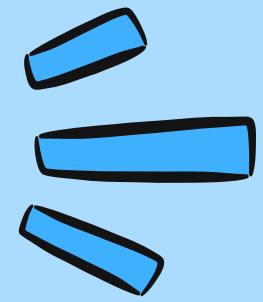
**LAST CALL FOR RAFFLE**

<https://tinyurl.com/vbsora>





# SPECIAL COLLECTIONS



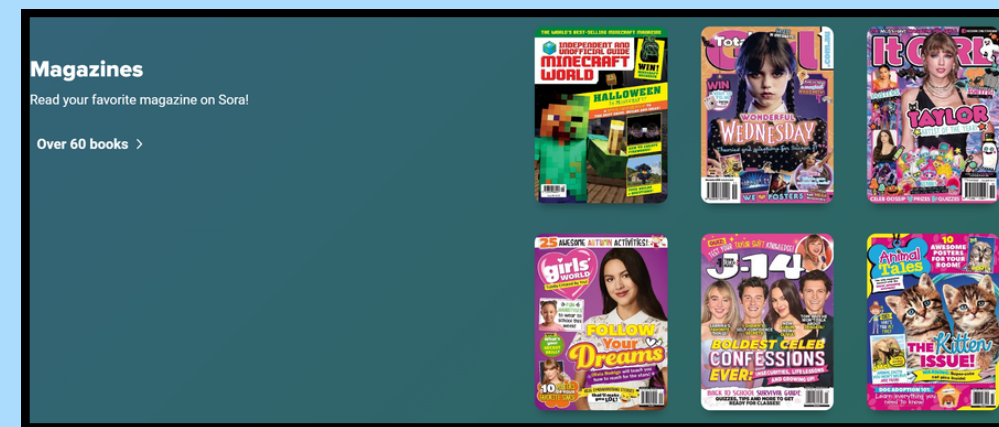
## ALL-ACCESS COMICS

## MAGAZINES

## COST PER CIRC

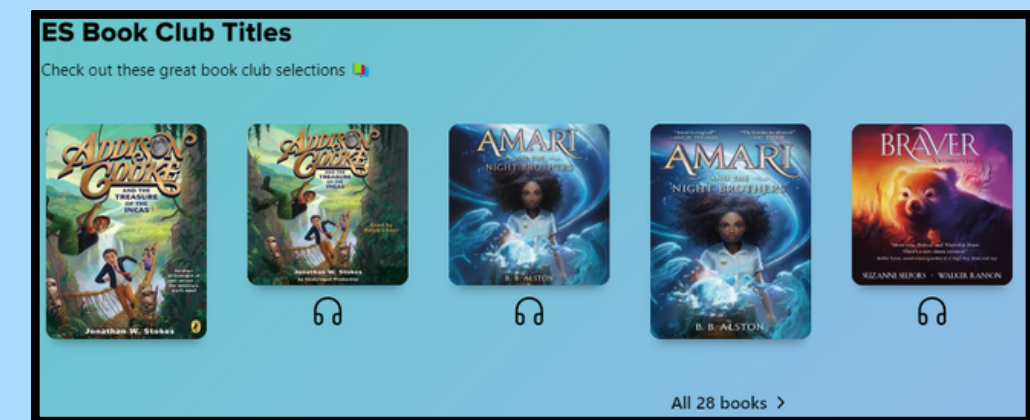


- Annual subscription
- Age appropriate titles, filtered by access level



- Collection updated quarterly (Sora sends notification email)
- Review new titles prior to publication

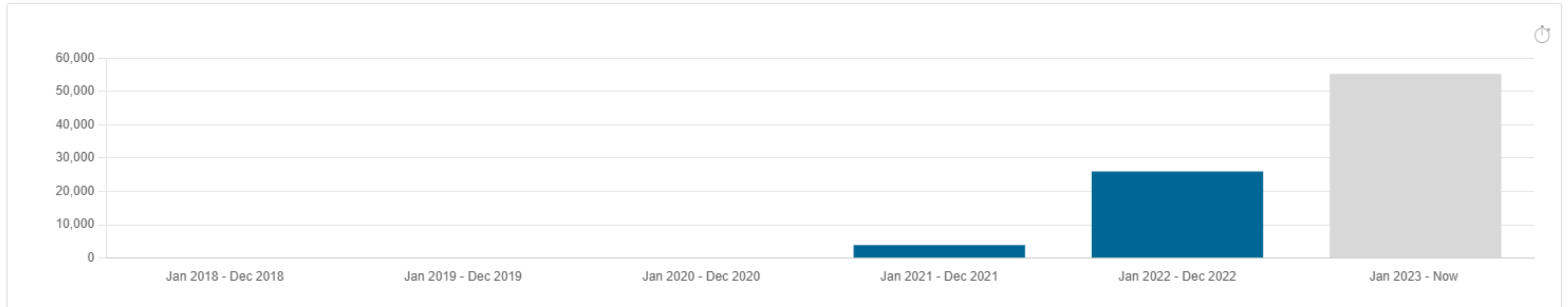
<https://tinyurl.com/vbsora>



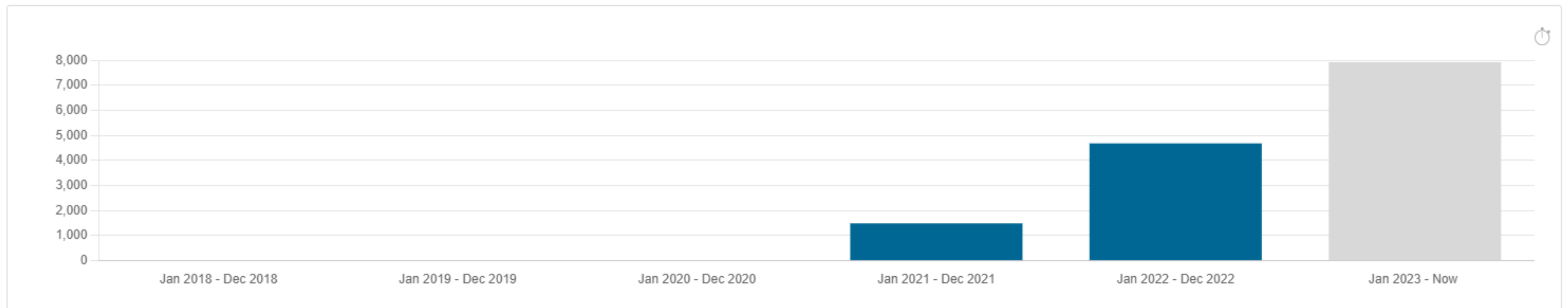
- Purchase to supplement district book clubs, state reading programs and Battle of the Books
- Set monthly budgets

# SORA TRENDS

Checkouts: Year over year



Unique users: Year over year



<https://tinyurl.com/vbsora>



# QUESTIONS?

[Kelly Miller](#)

Coordinator of Library Services

[Jennifer Clements](#)

Instructional Technology Coordinator



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**RAFFLE**