

Book Challenges

Rose Tomishima

Elementary Literacy and ELA
Specialist

 @RoseTomishima

Kelly Waller

Secondary Literacy and ELA
Specialist

 @KellyKWaller



Indiana
DEPARTMENT OF
EDUCATION



@EducateIN #INspirEDlit

Working Together for Student Success

How This Books Challenge Works

For Educators:

- Print the Book Challenge Board and display in your classroom or library for whole-class or student reading challenge
- Print the Book Challenge Board for each student to read, track, and share about books they have read
- Utilize the Book Challenge Board template to create your own book challenges

For Students and Families:

- Display the Book Challenge Board to track how many books you have read that meet each challenge
- Use the Book Challenge Activities to hold conversations centered on books you have read
- Create your own Book Challenge Board with activities to go along with each book



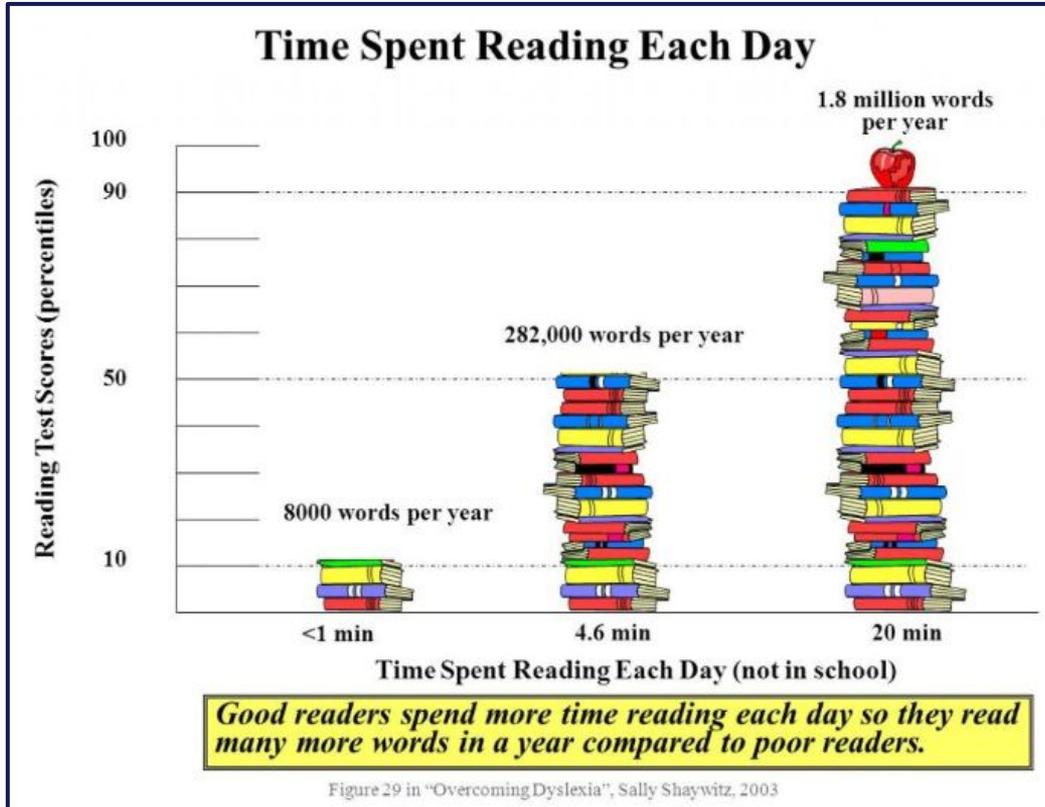
Did You Know?

In *From Striving to Thriving*, Stephanie Harvey and Annie Ward (2017) emphasize this fact on the very first page. They note that “four decades of research have established that voluminous, pleasurable reading is key to literacy development” (p. 9).

The more one reads, the better one reads. The more one reads, the more knowledge of words and language one acquires. The more one reads, the more fluent one becomes as a reader. The more one reads, the easier it becomes to sustain the mental effort necessary to comprehend complex texts. The more one reads, the more one learns about the people and happenings of our world. This increased volume of reading is essential (Allington, 2014).



Reading Time



Just by reading 20 minutes a day, students interact with **1.8 million** words per year whereas their peers who read less than a minute only interact with 8,000 words per year.



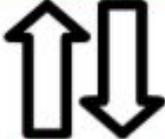
Book Challenge Board

<p><u>Read a book by an Indiana author</u></p>	<p><u>Read a book where the main character is the complete opposite of you (gender, race, religion, etc.)</u></p>	<p><u>Read a book that takes place in a location where you have never been</u></p>
<p><u>Read a book that was published this year</u></p>	<p><u>Read a book that was published before you were born</u></p>	<p><u>Read a book that was made into a movie</u></p>
<p><u>Read a book where the narrator is something other than a person</u></p>	<p><u>Read a nonfiction book that discusses a topic or person that is important to you</u></p>	<p><u>Read a book that is longer than any other book you have ever read</u></p>



Printable Book Challenge Boards

Printable Book Challenge Board with and without Images

 Indiana author	 Opposite character	 New location
 From 2020	 Published before you were born	 Book turned movie
 Non-human narrator	 Nonfiction	 Long book

Read a book by an Indiana author	Read a book where the main character is the complete opposite of you (gender, race, religion, etc.)	Read a book that takes place in a location you have never been
Read a book that was published this year	Read a book that was published before you were born	Read a book that was made into a movie
Read a book where the narrator is something other than a person	Read a nonfiction book that discusses a topic of person that is important to you	Read a book that is longer than any other book you have ever read



Indiana Authors

Elementary Book Suggestions

Help! I'm a Prisoner in the Library by Eth Clifford
Clifford, The Big Red Dog by Norman Bridwell
Mya in the Middle Crystal Allen
What If...? Then We by Rebecca Kai Dotlich

Secondary Books Suggestions

Looking For Alaska by John Green
Slaughterhouse Five by Kurt Vonnegut
You Should See Me in a Crown by Leah Johnson
Painted Over by Sofi Keren

Activities to Accompany Reading

Where you live and the experiences you have had allow you to have your own story. Map out what a story about you would be like. Use a [storyboard](#) or one of the [plot diagrams](#) to draw out the most important scenes. Keep in mind the progression of a story: exposition, rising action, climax, falling action, resolution.

Use [Book Creator](#) or an online platform to create, write, illustrate, or record your book.



Character Opposite of You

Elementary Book Suggestions

Red by Michael Hall

Round Is a Mooncake by Roseanne Thong

The Year of the Fortune Cookie by Andrea Cheng

Ivy Aberdeen's Letter to the World by Ashley Herring Blake

Secondary Books Suggestions

The Boy in the Black Suit by Jason Reynolds

Gracefully Grayson by Ami Polonski

Proud by Ibtihaj Muhammad

The Sun is Also a Star by Nicola Yoon

I'm Not Your Perfect Mexican Daughter by Erika L. Sanchez

Activities to Accompany Reading

During reading, ask the reader to complete a [Venn Diagram](#) to keep track of differences and similarities between themselves and the main character of the story. Consider the character's personality, goals, values, family structure, and hobbies.

After reading, write or illustrate a reflection that explains one similarity found between the reader and the main character. Why is it important for people to find things they have in common with people who seem different than them?



New Locations

Elementary Book Suggestions

The Water Princess by Susan Verde

Elephant in the Dark by Mina Javaherbin

The Boy Who Asked Why by Sowmya Rajendran

The Dreamer by Peter Sis and Pam Munoz Ryan

Big City Atlas by Maggie Li

Secondary Books Suggestions

A Thousand Splendid Suns by Khaled Hosseini

Homegoing by Yaa Gyasi

A Long Way Gone by Ishmael Beah

The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian by Sherman Alexie

Activities to Accompany Reading

During reading, use details from the text to draw a picture of how you imagine the location of the story to look like. You can create this drawing by hand or on a digital platform like [Doodle Buddy](#) for elementary or [Uplifting Play](#) for secondary students.

After reading, write a reflection about how the location of the story is essential to the development of the plot. Could this same story take place in a different location? Why or why not?



Published This Year

Elementary Book Suggestions

Cool Cuts by Mechal Renee Roe

Just Like Me Vanessa Brantley-Newton

Epoca by Kobe Bryant, written by Ivy Claire

The Funny Life of Sharks by James Campbell

Wonderscape by Jennifer Bell

Secondary Books Suggestions

Stamped: Racism, Antiracism and You by Jason Reynolds

A Burning by Megha Majumdar

The Ballad of Song Birds and Snakes by Suzanne Collins

Clap When You Land by Elizabeth Acevedo

Activities to Accompany Reading

Before reading, brainstorm a list of three to five major events that took place during the current year.

After reading, review the list you created of major events from the year and see if you can make connections between those events and the themes that are included in the book you read.

How might the lessons or themes discussed in the book change the way you think about the events that took place?



Published Before You Were Born

Elementary Book Suggestions

Corduroy by Don Freeman

The Giving Tree by Shel Silverstein

Harold and the Purple Crayon by Crockett Johnson

Flat Stanley by Jeff Brown

The Phantom Tollbooth by Norton Juster

Secondary Books Suggestions

Their Eyes Were Watching God by Zora Neale Hurston

The Outsiders by S.E. Hinton

Go Tell It On the Mountain by James Baldwin

Lord of the Flies by William Golding

Mrs. Dalloway by Virginia Woolf

Activities to Accompany Reading

Even though this book was published before you were born, make [three different connections](#).

- One connection to yourself
- One connection to another text you have read or film you have seen
- One connection to the world beyond you

Tell a family member or write down your connections.



Made Into Movie

Elementary Book Suggestions

The Lorax by Dr. Seuss

Wonder by R.J. Palacio

Nim's Island by Wendy Orr

The One and Only Ivan by Katherine Applegate

A Series of Unfortunate Events by David Handler

Secondary Books Suggestions

The Perks of Being a Wallflower Stephen Chbosky

Fences August Wilson

Holes by Louis Sachar

The Giver by Lois Lowry

The Hate U Give by Angie Thomas

Activities to Accompany Reading

Read the book, then watch the movie. Compare and contrast differences between the book and movie, then write which version you thought was better and why.

Create your critique on [Flipgrid](#) to let your peers, family, or teachers know which version you thought was best and why. Need more information about how to use Flipgrid? Check out this short [video](#).



Non-Human Narrator

Elementary Book Suggestions

The Box Turtle by Vanessa Roeder
Can I Be Your Dog? By Troy Cummings
Dear Mrs. LaRue by Mark Teague
Charlotte's Web by E.B. White
Freya & Zoose by Emily Butler

Secondary Books Suggestions

The Book Thief by Markus Zusak
The Metamorphosis by Franz Kafka
The Art of Racing in the Rain by Garth Stein

Activities to Accompany Reading

Choose a major scene from the story and imagine how it would be different if it were told from another character's point of view. Script and illustrate the new scene.

Try [Storyboard That](#) to create a digital setting for your scene.



Important Nonfiction Topic

Elementary Book Suggestions

Citizen Baby Series by Megan Bryant and Daniel Prosterman
Thank You, Helpers by Patricia Hegarty
A Ticket Around the World by Natalia Diaz
What a Waste by Jess French
Malala: My Story of Standing Up for Girls' Rights by Sarah Robbins (adapter), Malala Yousafzai

Secondary Books Suggestions

The Autobiography of Malcolm X by Malcolm X and Alex Haley
Just Mercy by Bryan Stevenson
I am Malala by Malala Yousafzai
The 57 Bus by Bashka Slater

Activities to Accompany Reading

Before reading, write down what you already know about this topic or person. What assumptions do you have based on things you already know? Keep this list so you can go back at the end to see if you're correct.

After reading, look at the list you created before you read, was your knowledge accurate? What new information did you learn about this topic or person? What surprised you? What do you think the author wanted you to learn from reading their book? Is there something you can do to create change?



Longer Book

Elementary Book Suggestions

Who Would Win by Jerry Pallotta
Keena Ford Series by Melissa Thomson
Granted by John David Anderson
Pashmina by Nidhi Chanani
Harry Potter by J.K. Rowlings

Secondary Books Suggestions

My Sister's Keeper by Jodi Picoult
Extremely Loud and Incredibly Close by Jonathan Safran Foer
Native Son by Richard Wright
Friday Night Lights by H.G. Bessinger
How to Lead a Life of Crime by Kirsten Miller

Activities to Accompany Reading

Create a reading goal that includes how many pages, chapters, or minutes you will read each day or week. Try to increase the goal each week you are reading.

Utilize strips of paper to jot down your thoughts after reading and place in your book as a placeholder or bookmark. Reread your notes before you start reading next time to refresh your memory on what you have already read. Continue this process throughout the book.



Thank You.

Rose Tomishima
Elementary Literacy and
ELA Specialist
rtomishima@doe.in.gov

Kelly Waller
Secondary Literacy and ELA
Specialist
kwaller@doe.in.gov

 @RoseTomishima and @KellyKWaller

#INspirEDlit

