

## Celebrate World Read Aloud Day at Your Office



World Read Aloud Day is an opportunity to celebrate reading and storytelling with entire communities, including the one created at work. LitWorld knows that literacy is the foundation for emotional and physical well-being, intellectual growth, and economic security. Highlight the importance of reading aloud and use this easy guide to create a joyful celebration in your office leading up to the big day, or on March 4, 2015.

Don't forget to take lots of pictures and videos and share them with LitWorld on Facebook or Twitter, or by email at [wrad@litworld.org](mailto:wrad@litworld.org)!

In this packet you will find:

- Read aloud guide with a read aloud how-to and suggested read aloud materials.
- Event guide with suggested group activities to do in your office.
- Fundraising guide with suggestions for how you can further support LitWorld and our programs

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

## Global Literacy Statistics

LitWorld works to cultivate a new generation of leaders, storytellers and academic achievers, effecting change for themselves, their communities, and the world. Our campaigns mobilize children and adults from around the world to advocate for literacy as a human right that belongs to all people.

- Reading aloud to children every day puts them almost a year ahead of children who do not receive daily read alouds regardless of parental income, education level or cultural background. (Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research)
- According to the latest data (2014), 793 million adults – two thirds of them women – lack basic reading and writing skills. (UNESCO)
- Since 1985, the female adult literacy rate has risen 15%, which is about double the growth of the male literacy rate in the same time period. (UNESCO)
- On tests involving 4,500 to 10,000 students in 43 countries, half of the girls said they read for at least 30 minutes a day, compared with less than one-third of the boys. (UNESCO)
- Even though the size of the global illiterate population is shrinking, the female proportion has remained virtually steady at 63 to 64%. (UNESCO)
- Among the youth population, female literacy rates have been rising quickly. Nonetheless, three out of five youths lacking basic reading and writing skills are young women. (UNESCO)
- If all children in low-income countries left school literate, 171 million people could move out of poverty. (World Literacy Foundation)
- Poorly-literate individuals are less likely to participate in democratic processes and have fewer chances to fully exercise their civil rights (UNESCO)
- A child born to a mother who can read is 50% more likely to survive past the age of 5 than a child born to an illiterate woman. (UNESCO)
- A literate and educated girl is three times less likely to acquire AIDS, she will earn at least 25% more income, and she will produce a smaller, healthier family. (UNESCO)
- Illiterate people earn 30-42% less than their literate counterparts. (World Literacy Foundation)

*UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization*



## Read Aloud Guide

*LitWorld knows that literacy is the foundation for emotional and physical well-being, intellectual growth, and economic security. Furthermore, reading aloud improves listening skills, vocabulary acquisition, and the understanding of common story scripts and structure that will factor into all children's future academic success. Make the most out of reading aloud by employing active reading strategies!*

- Even if you are reading to a group of adults, try out a picture book, poem or interesting article. Being read aloud to is enjoyable at any age. If that doesn't feel right, read an office memo or a set of meeting minutes and explain the importance of World Read Aloud Day to those gathered.
- Be animated and use a voice that matches the expressions and emotions of the characters during a read aloud to bring the experience alive for listeners
  - Use different voices for different characters so that children come to recognize dialogue within a text and individual character traits
  - If your book has a lot of text, try a story walk instead of reading every word of the text. Summarize what is happening on each page, pointing to the illustrations to help explain the action
  - Ask questions as you read.
  - Allow participants to ask you questions and model the behaviors of an active reader, such as looking back to the text to answer questions

**Example:** With *City Green* by DyAnne DiSalvo, you can read directly from the text with older readers, but because there is some complex text for readers under five, you might want to try a story walk if you sense your readers' attention waning. You can use the colors of your voice to enhance the story, for example when the text reads:

*My friend Ms. Rosa told me Old Man Hammer used to live there—some other neighbors too. But when I asked him about that, he only hollered, "Scram." Old Man Hammer, hard as nails.*

You can emphasize the dialogue "Scram" to capture the emotion and engage the listeners.



# Read Aloud Suggestions

## Belonging

### Picture

*My Name is Leona* by Carol Gahara Harris

*The Storm Whale* by Benji Davies

### Poetry

*Wild Geese* by Mary Oliver

*In Defense of Small Towns* by Oliver De la Paz

### Chapter

*I'll Give You the Sun* by Jandy Nelson

*Eleanor & Park* by Rainbow Powell

## Curiosity

### Picture

*The Memory of an Elephant* by Sophie Strady

*29 Myths on the Swinster Pharmacy* by Lemony Snicket

*Draw!* By Raúl Colón (no words!)

### Poetry

*Whatif*, by Shel Silverstein

*Darest Thou Now, O Soul* by Walt Whitman

### Chapter

*The Sixty-Eight Rooms (The Sixty-Eight Rooms Adventures)* by Marianne Malone

*The Key to Rondo* by Emily Rodda

## Friendship

### Picture

*The Jacket* by Kirsten Hall

*Wednesday* by Anne Bertier

### Poetry

*On Friendship* by Khalil Gibran

*A Time to Talk*, by Robert Frost

### Chapter

*Flora and Ulysses: The Illuminated Adventures* by Kate DiCamillo

*Counting by 7s* by Holly Goldberg Sloan

## Kindness

### Picture

*Hug Me* by Simona Ciraolo

*The Lion and the Bird* by Marianne Dubuc



## Poetry

*Kindness* by Naomi Nye  
*Carpe Diem* by Robert Frost

## Chapter

*Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo  
*Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata

## Courage

### Picture

*Shackleton's Journey* by William Grill  
*Wild* by Emily Hughes

### Poetry

*Brown Girl Dreaming* Jacqueline Woodson  
*I Look at the World* by Langston Hughes

### Chapter

*A Moment Comes* by Jennifer Bradbury  
*Silver People: Voices from the Panama Canal* by Margarita Engle  
*Ophelia and the Marvelous Boy* by Karen Foxlee

## Confidence

### Picture

*Lupita's First Dance/ El Primer Baile de Lupita* by Lupe Ruiz-Flores  
*Josephine: The Dazzling Life of Josephine Baker* by Patricia Hruby Powell

### Poetry

*Famous* by Naomi Nye  
*Black Hair* by Gary Soto

### Chapter

*El Deafo* by Cece Bell (graphic novel!)  
*The Sweetness at the Bottom of the Pie (Flavia de Luce #1)* by Alan Bradley

## Hope

### Picture

*The Farmer and the Clown* by Marla Frazee (no words!)  
*The Infinite Song* by Andrea Freeman

### Poetry

*Still I Rise* by Maya Angelou  
*Tiger Mask Ritual* by Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni  
*Listen to the Mustn'ts* by Shel Silverstein

### Chapter

*Homeless Bird* by Gloria Whelan  
*Esperanza Rising* by Pam Muñoz Ryan



## Event Guide

Below are some suggestions on how to celebrate World Read Aloud Day at your place of work.

1. [Sponsor a Read Aloud in your office meeting.](#) Participating in World Read Aloud Day can be as simple as reading aloud an agenda at your morning office meeting or collaboratively drafting a letter. The point of World Read Aloud Day is that everyone is reading aloud and thinking about the impact literacy has on their lives. Challenge yourself and your place of employment to think about how read aloud has impacted the day, whether it is the confidence gained through public speaking or the ability to effectively communicate, reading aloud is an important skill.
2. [Fundraise for LitWorld.](#) Use the resources provided in this packet to organize an office wide or personal fundraising campaign for LitWorld. By fundraising, you are helping LitWorld ensure that children all around the world have access to a quality education.
3. [Promote the day on social media.](#) Send the LitWorld World Read Aloud Day calendar to your social media and marketing department so they can schedule tweets and Facebook posts to promote the day. Go to [litworld.org/wrad](http://litworld.org/wrad) to download.
4. [Contact your Corporate Social Responsibility office.](#) Reach out to your Corporate Social Responsibility Office and express interest in having them sponsor an event at your office. Encourage them to support a small fundraising event or World Read Aloud Event that will engage the larger community you work with! Information for fundraising is found on the next page of this packet!
5. [Host a book swap.](#) Pick a date, time and location and invite your coworkers to join you. Ask participants to choose and bring one book from home they have already read. Once you are all together, have participants spread out the books, and each participant can choose a new book to take home.
6. [Host a World Read Aloud Day dinner.](#) Ask each attendee to bring his or her favorite picture book, and take turns reading aloud between bites. Invite your guests to make a donation to LitWorld in honor of World Read Aloud Day.
7. [Sponsor a World Read Aloud Day event in your community.](#) If you choose to sponsor an event for your local community, use our Community Event Packet to access fun and engaging activities that can be completed with kids of all ages. Here is a link to the event packet and activity packet:



## Fundraising Guide

LitWorld needs your help to reach more children than ever on World Read Aloud Day! Below you will find suggested fundraising ideas you can mobilize in your own office space.

1. Start your own Crowdrise page and post your efforts on social media. Enroll your friends, family and coworkers to give any amount to help you reach your fundraising goal.

Visit [Crowdrise.com](http://Crowdrise.com), click "I'm A Fundraiser" and follow the prompts to set up your fundraiser page and share with your friends on social media. Don't forget to link your profile to [LitWorld's Crowdrise page!](#)

2. Pledge money to support The Reading Minutes Challenge. Email [yayayuan@litworld.org](mailto:yayayuan@litworld.org) to pledge.

LitClubs around the world will be reading aloud and tallying the minutes. Pledge to support the LitClubs as they read. Your pledge to sponsor a LitClub as they take on the reading minutes challenge will go a long way in motivating our kids to take action for World Read Aloud Day! Encourage other members of your office to take part!

By pledging, you are agreeing to donate a certain dollar amount if our LitClubs are able to reach a certain number of read aloud minutes. Your pledge is a one-time donation. For example, if you pledge \$50 for 500 minutes read, that does not mean you will be expected to donate \$100 if our LitClubs read for 1,000 minutes. Choose which amount of minutes you would like to pledge and we'll let you know if our LitClubs reach that amount of read aloud minutes.

Minutes	Your Pledge
500	\$50
1000	\$100
2000	\$150
3000	\$300
5000	\$500
10,000	\$1,000





**March 4th, 2015**

Join the Movement. Read Aloud. Change the World.

[litworld.org](http://litworld.org)



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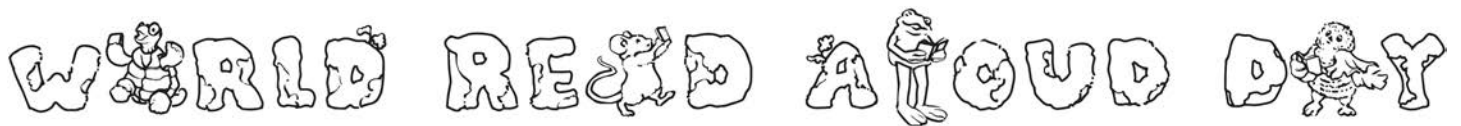
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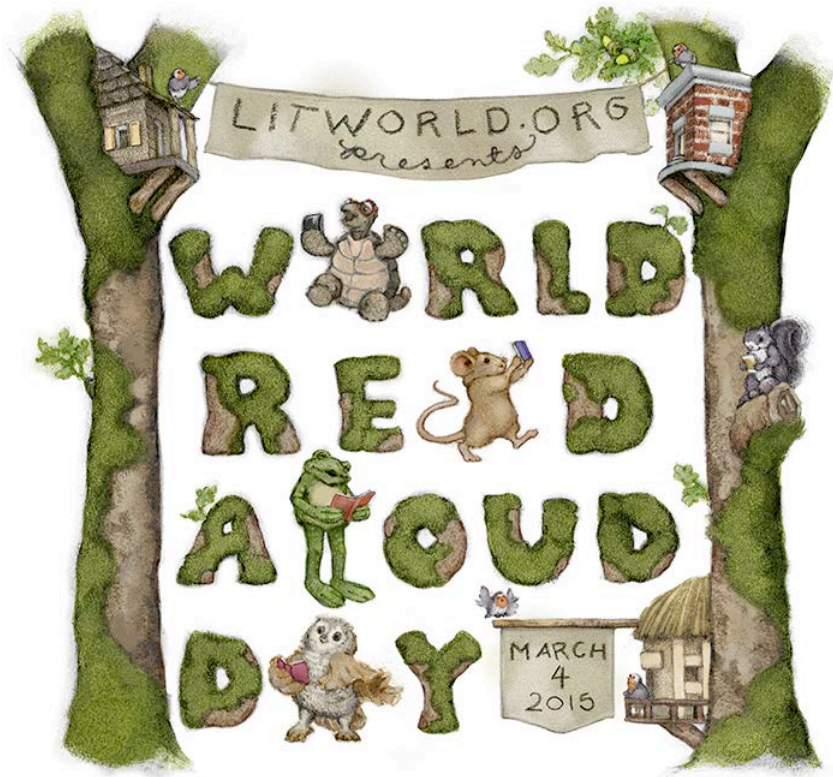


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***Imagine a world where everyone can read...***

**On World Read Aloud Day, celebrate by reading aloud or taking action on behalf of the 793 million people who cannot read.**

### **Join the Movement.**

Spread the word about World Read Aloud Day to friends, family and members of your network!

### **Read Aloud.**

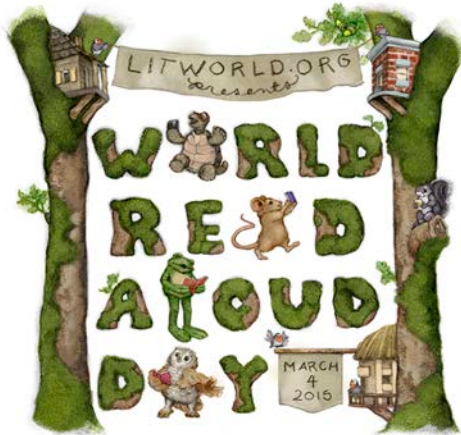
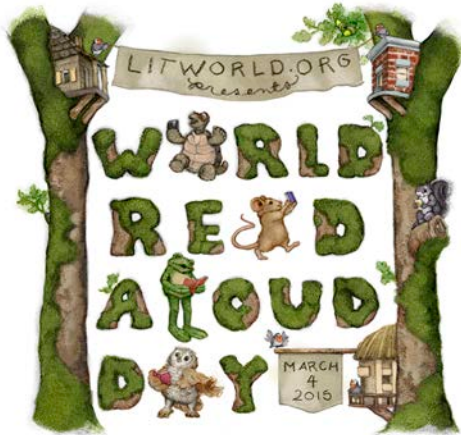
Read aloud with loved ones or new friends and tally your minutes. Find a sponsor to pledge a donation for the number of minutes you read.

### **Change the World.**

Take action and host an event in your community or home, connect with friends near and far, and help grow the movement worldwide.

**Visit [litworld.org](http://litworld.org) to join the movement, check out our free resources, and learn more!**

**World Read Aloud Day: March 4, 2015**



LITWORLD.ORG  
*presents*

WORLD

READ

ALOUD

DAY

MARCH  
4  
2015



WORLD READ ALOUD DAY  
CERTIFICATE

presented to:

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**On March 4th, 2015 you took action  
to show the world that you support  
everyone's right to read and share  
their words to change the world.**



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