

### **ACTIVITY PACKET**





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# WHAT IS WORLD READ ALOUD DAY®?



LitWorld founded World Read Aloud Day® (WRAD) in 2010 to celebrate the power of reading aloud in creating community and amplifying new stories, and to advocate for literacy as a foundational human right.

Since then, World Read Aloud Day has evolved into a global movement involving millions of readers, writers, and listeners from around the world coming together to honor the joy and power of reading aloud and to continue **expanding the definition and scope of global literacy.** 

#### 3 REASONS TO CELEBRATE!

Reading aloud at home and at school is one of the best ways to help children develop literacy skills.

According to research by the University of Melbourne, daily reading aloud to children puts them almost a year ahead of children who do not receive daily read-alouds regardless of income, education level or cultural background. Reading aloud is an incredibly accessible and powerful way to help listeners of all ages build essential literacy skills.

- Reading Aloud helps us share stories
- Our stories articulate the ways that we experience the world from our own perspective. Sharing stories is how we learn about the world- how to navigate it, how we define our own place in it, and how to make it better. Finding spaces and platforms to share our stories is essential and World Read Aloud Day helps us to highlight that.
- Reading Aloud helps us build community.

  Sharing stories has always been the way we connect to each other as humans, and finding time to celebrate those connections is important! The stories we share aloud are the stories we value and those stories are the ones that define our history. Bringing families, communities, and our society together around our stories is the best way to write a history that celebrates us all!





## WAYS TO CELEBRATE

World Read Aloud Day is an opportunity for people all around the world to **create community through storytelling.** This year, we're celebrating how important it is to #TellEveryStory. Join the movement by connecting with others virtually or in person to share the stories that matter to you with the world!



#### EMBRACE TECHNOLOGY

Technology can provide creative and accessible ways of sharing stories with people around the world on World Read Aloud Day. On February 7, 2024, here are some ways you can take your World Read Aloud Day celebrations online.

- Commit to telling a story to someone you know via video chat, social media, or email, and encourage them to do the same and pay it forward to someone else! Let us know which stories you share on social media by using #WorldReadAloudDay and #TellEveryStory and tagging us on Facebook, Instagram, or Twitter.
- For more virtual read-aloud experiences, resources, and activities, visit the WRAD Activity Hub at <a href="litworld.org/worldreadaloudday">litworld.org/worldreadaloudday</a>. Make sure you participate with your families, friends, schools, and colleagues!

#### BECOME A WRADVOCATE

On February 7th, become a WRADvocate by encouraging others to celebrate the power of reading aloud and storytelling! You can post about it on social media and share your stories with the world, take action locally by organizing a book drive for your community, or volunteer to read aloud via video conference to a classroom. For more creative ways to advocate for storytelling on World Read Aloud Day, visit <a href="littworld.org/worldreadaloudday">litworld.org/worldreadaloudday</a>

#### START YOUR OWN STORYTELLING TRADITION

Use World Read Aloud Day as an opportunity to establish new storytelling habits with your family and friends by **starting a weekly read-aloud night at home or book club with friends** that you'll continue all year long!









# LITWORLD'S **BUILD A STORY**CHALLENGE

In 2022, LitWorld® introduced the *Build a Story* challenge for World Read Aloud Day to encourage readers and writers of all ages to **share their stories with the world**—and we received *hundreds* of amazing submissions from all around the globe (view them now at <u>litworld.org/buildastory</u>).



#### How to "Build" your Story!

There is no wrong way to create a story! If a structure is helpful, however, you can use the 7 prompts on the next page to guide you. Complete the prompts on your own, or work together with a group of family, friends, or colleagues.

#### If you are working with a group:

Have each person submit a one-sentence response to the first prompt. As a group, choose which response you like best and use it to inspire responses to the next prompt. (If you are familiar with the game "Apples to Apples", you can use a similar process to determine the best responses for each prompt.) Continue in this way until you've completed the story!

#### **HOW TO SHARE YOUR STORY**

Upload either the text of your story or a video of yourself reading it aloud to the **Build a Story Flipgrid on the World Read Aloud Day Activity Hub** at <u>litworld.org/buildastory</u>. You can also **post your story on social media** with the hashtags #BuildAStory and #WorldReadAloudDay. Don't forget to tag @litworld on <u>Instagram</u> and <u>Facebook</u> or @litworldsays on <u>Twitter!</u>

UPLOAD YOUR STORY









#### **BUILD A STORY**

### **CHALLENGE PROMPTS**



#### Prompt 1: "Once upon a time, there was..."

Come up with a character (or characters) and a description of them.

Ex: "Once upon a time, there was a little girl named Red Riding Hood who liked to break the rules.")

#### Prompt 2: "Everyday, ..."

What is the character's objective? What do they want to accomplish?

Ex: "Everyday, Little Red Riding Hood went picking flowers in the woods by her house so that she could build a beautiful bouquet for her grandmother."

#### Prompt 3: "But..."

What stands in the way of the character's objective?

Ex: "But there was a ferocious wolf in the woods. Little Red Riding Hood had been warned not to go outside of her fence or she would get into lots of trouble."

#### Prompt 4: "So..."

What does the character do to overcome their obstacle?

Ex: "So Little Red Riding Hood crawled on her hands and knees underneath her mom's window so that she could escape notice and get to the really beautiful flowers further off in the woods."

#### Prompt 5: "But then..."

Add a conflict!

Ex: "But then, a big bad wolf popped out from behind a tree and threatened to eat Little Red Riding Hood!"

#### Prompt 6: "Because of that..."

How do the characters respond to the conflict?

Ex: "Because of that, Little Red Riding Hood had to think fast! She stood as still as she could and pretended to be a statue to confuse the wolf."

#### Prompt 7: "Finally, ..."

How does the story end?

Ex: "Finally, unable to find the little girl he thought he saw moving around in the woods, the wolf went home. As soon as he was out of sight, Little Red Riding Hood let out a sigh of relief and ran home, never to break the rules again!"

This is your Story You can make your story as dramatic, silly or serious as you like. your only limitations are your





### **STORYTELLING 101:**

#### THE FIVE STORY ELEMENTS

World Read Aloud Day is a perfect opportunity to write and share your own stories. While there is no wrong way to tell a story, knowing about the five story elements can help make your story interesting and easy to understand!



#### **CHARACTER**

The characters are the people (or animals, or objects) that experience the main action of a story. Interesting characters have motivations and personalities. The more well-rounded and interesting your characters are, the more interesting your story will be.

Tip: Try to understand who your characters are before you begin. What are they like? Are they loud or quiet? Timid or bold?

#### **SETTING**

The setting is when and where a story takes place, like a city, country, house, or school. A story can also take place in a different time period, or in a magical place too! Tip: Sometimes it helps to "world build" before you start writing. What is important about when and where your story takes place? Write down the rules your characters will have to follow for the setting to be believable. For example, if your story is set in 1920, it wouldn't make sense for a character to check their cellphone!







### **STORYTELLING 101:**

#### THE FIVE STORY ELEMENTS



#### **PLOT**

The plot of a story consists of all of the events that happen in it. A good plot has a clear **beginning**, **middle**, **and end**.

Tip: Before you start writing, outline the major events your characters will experience. Make sure all the events lead up to or affect the climax (the most exciting part) of your story.

#### **THEME**

The theme of a story is **the lesson the reader learns** from what the characters experience.

Tip: Before you begin writing your story, think about what you want your readers to walk away understanding. For example, maybe readers of your story can learn from your character's actions that they should always be kind to others.





#### CONFLICT

The conflict of a story is **the main problem**. Stories need problems; they're what drives the characters to do what they do!

Tip: The main conflict in a story may be between two characters. It could also be between a character and the society that the character lives in, or be between a character and nature. As you write your plot, make sure it revolves around how the characters address the main conflict.



# STORYTELLING 101: THE STORY MOUNTAIN

Most narrative stories (those with a beginning, middle, and end) have a familiar structure. You can use this **story mountain** template to structure the plot of your story so it makes sense and is compelling.



- **1. INTRODUCTION: Start by introducing the main characters, the setting, and the problem.** Ex. In the story of The Three Little Pigs, we are introduced to each of the three little pigs and their personalities. One little pig is smart and hard-working, while the other two pigs are lazy. We are also introduced to a hungry wolf who wants to eat them!
- 2. RISING ACTION: The rising action is where your main characters encounter twists and turns as they attempt to solve the main problem. In traditional stories, there are often three obstacles that characters must overcome before they can do so!

  Ex. In the story of The Three Little Pigs, the wolf destroys the youngest brother's house

made out of hay (obstacle 1), then destroys the middle brother's stick house (obstacle 2). Finally, the wolf attempts to destroy the eldest brother's brick house (obstacle 3).

3. CLIMAX: The climax of the story is the most exciting part! Here, your main characters go for what they want. It's up to you whether they succeed or not.

Ex. In the story of the Three Little Pigs, the hungry wolf tries several ways to destroy the eldest brother's house of bricks: he tries to blow it down, he tries to push it down, and then he finally decides to climb down the chimney to get to the little pigs inside.

4. FALLING ACTION: The falling action is what happens right after the climax of a story. It's where we discover what happens as a result of the exciting climactic moment.

Ex. In the story of The Three Little Pigs, the hungry wolf falls into a boiling pot of water the brothers placed under the chimney and runs off with his tail between his legs.

5. RESOLUTION: The resolution is the last part of a story. It's where we tie up all the loose ends and discover what lessons the main characters learned over the course of the story. Ex. The younger pigs learn to work hard like their brother and they all live happily ever after.









# STORYTELLING GAMES

World Read Aloud Day is an opportunity to celebrate stories in all of their many forms. It is a day that empowers you to become a storyteller. Writing and sharing your own stories helps you **share your voice with the world!** 



# Try these fun storytelling activities alone or with a group to celebrate World Read Aloud Day!

Story in the Round



It Happened To Me



A Picture is Worth 1.000 Words







# STORYTELLING GAMES STORY IN THE ROUND

This activity is a **fun and creative way** to share stories together. Don't be afraid to get silly!

#### **MATERIALS**

• (Optional) Chart paper

#### **DIRECTIONS**

**1.** (Optional) On the chart paper, write down the following reference prompts and hang it where all participants can see.





- 2. Have all participants sit in a circle.
- 3. Explain that you will be creating a "Story in the Round" together. This means that each participant will add a sentence to a story you all create together on the spot!
- **4.** Start the story with "Once Upon a Time." The first prompt should include characters and a setting (for example, "Once upon a time, there was a young girl who lived in the woods.").
- 5. The person to your right should continue the story. If needed, refer them to the chart and encourage them to start their sentence with any of the "middle" transition words (for example, "...And she had a little dog who loved to wander around").
- 6. Continuing to the right, each participant in the circle should add a sentence to the story. At any point, someone can use the ending prompt "Finally" to end the story.

#### **TIPS**

- Encourage participants to **listen to the prompts** that come before theirs. Remind them that your goal together is to create a story that makes sense.
- It might help to **announce a genre** before the first prompt is given. You can create a scary story, a funny story, an adventure story, etc.









# STORYTELLING GAMES IT HAPPENED TO ME

This activity will help you **share stories of small but important life moments with others**. You can play this game in a group, or use this method to think of stories to write on your own.

#### **MATERIALS**

- Small slips of paper
- A container such as hat, bucket, or cup
- Notebooks or paper for every participant
- Pencils or pens for every participant

#### **DIRECTIONS**

- 1. On each of the small slips of paper, write down one of the prompts below. Feel free to add any other prompts you like!
  - A time you learned an important lesson
  - A time you were very scared
- A time you discovered something new about yourself or the world
- A time you were incredibly happy
- A time you were incredibly excited
- 2. Put all the slips of paper into the container.
- 3. Have all participants sit in a circle.
- 4. Pull a slip of paper from the container and read what it says to the group.
- **5.** Allow each participant five minutes to respond to the prompt independently in their notebook or on paper.
- **6.** Repeat this process twice more for a total of three rounds.
- 7. Once each participant has responded to all three prompts in their notebooks, allow time to share. You can give each participant an opportunity to share what they wrote about any one of the prompts or allow people to volunteer to share on their own.

#### **TIPS**

- **Never force anyone to share their writing.** Creating an encouraging and positive environment for this activity will help make everyone more comfortable with sharing, but sometimes participants simply won't want to. Make sure you do not put undue pressure on anyone to do so.
- You may want to provide a reader's chair or stage area for participants to share their stories. After each participant shares their story, encourage others to clap, snap, or throw shooting starts their way!









# STORYTELLING GAMES A PICTURE IS WORTH 1000 WORDS

This activity helps participants **create new stories using pictures and images**. Feel free to get creative as you stretch your imagination!

#### **MATERIALS**

- A collection of 3-5 images (these can be from the internet, storybooks, personal photographs, or any other images you can find. Try to find a variety of subjects like people, landscapes, abstract images, or drawings that the participants have made)
- A notebook or paper for each participant
- Pencils or pens for each participant
- Chart paper (optional)

#### **DIRECTIONS**

1. On the chart paper, provide the following story prompts:

#### The Pixar Pitch:

- Once upon a time...
- Every day...
- One day...
- Because of that...
- Because of that...
- Until finally...
- 2. Select one of the images and put it somewhere all participants can see.
- 3. Tell participants that they will each write a quick story based on the image. Encourage them to come up with characters, a conflict, a theme, and a plot based on what they see in the picture. They can use the "Pixar Pitch" to lay out the story by completing each sentence using the ideas they imagine after looking at the image.
- 4. Allow 5-10 minutes for each participant to write down a story.
- **5.** Allow each participant to share the story they created based on the image.
- **6.** Repeat this process for each of the images.

#### **TIPS**

• Create a **positive environmen**t to encourage participants to share their stories. You may want to provide a reader's chair or stage area. After each participant shares, encourage others to clap, snap, or throw shooting starts their way!





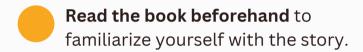


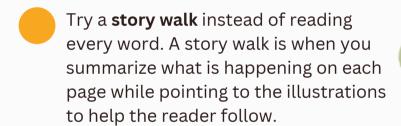


### **READ-ALOUD TIPS**

#### FROM **LITWORLD**

Reading aloud improves listening skills, vocabulary acquisition, and the understanding of common story themes and structures that will factor into children's future success. Even for adults, reading aloud is a fun and easy way to connect people. **Use these tips to create a powerful, memorable read aloud experience!** 







- Ask questions out loud as you read. Ask listeners to predict what will happen next, how they would feel if they were in the story, or the meaning of an unfamiliar word.
- After you finish a story, **discuss it with your audience!** How does it connect to the listeners' lives and experiences?
- Invite your audience to **act out parts of the story.** Let the listeners take turns being their favorite characters and having fun!
- Make sure to **talk about the Read Aloud experience itself!** Ask listeners to reflect upon how it feels to be part of a Read Aloud community and encourage them to engage others in their family and friend circles and communities in Read Aloud experiences!





## STORYTELLING TIPS

#### FROM **LITWORLD**

Storytelling is one of the oldest art forms and a great way to share knowledge, inspire, teach, and forge connections amongst people and ideas. Stories tell us about life and ourselves, and can promote a positive understanding of others.

Stories can also come in many shapes and forms. Some are read, some are watched, and some are told from memory and imagination. No matter what your way of telling stories is, read on to learn how you can make a memorable storytelling experience for all!



- **Know your audience.** Whether you are telling a story to a group of children, adults or both, make sure the language and message are easy to understand and accessible to everyone.
- **Decide what kind of story you're telling.** Are the characters, events and setting real or imagined? Does it come from personal experiences, or is it inspired by real life? Know the main message of the story before you begin!
- Invite interaction with the audience of your story. Just like a read-aloud, it is important to create a positive and exciting atmosphere to keep your listeners engaged and attentive. Encourage the audience to ask questions, maintain eye contact, and be aware of your voice level and body language. You can tell your story with your body by using your hands, feet, and legs, or you can ask the listeners to perform certain movements during certain parts of the story.
- **Know your ending!** Before you start telling your story, brainstorm the plot, main events and your ending. When you feel comfortable with your story, you can tell it in a different way each time, but the main points will stay the same and keep you on track and your audience following along.





#### MAKE YOUR OWN

### **READING CROWN**

Reading is often considered a solitary and quiet pastime where one experiences the story internally. We imagine the characters and events from the story, and experience countless feelings and emotions as we read our favorite tales. But what if there was a way to bring all of these imaginary parts to life and show others how you see and experience the story?

Reading Crowns are a signature LitWorld® activity that allows for everything in the reader's mind to become visible. To make your own Reading Crown, just follow these easy steps:

- **FOLD** your Reading Crown! Make sure it fits and that you can wear it comfortably as you read and celebrate.
- **DECORATE** your Reading Crown with anything you'd like: characters, stories, quotes, letters, stickers, etcetera. The sky is the limit!
- **START READING!** When you wear your crown, you are in a special reading mode and can have fun reading aloud, reading by yourself, listening to a story, or writing your own stories!



FOLD, DECORATE, AND READ!

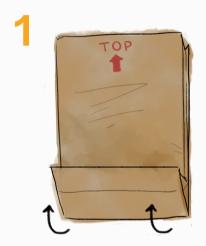




# MAKE YOUR OWN READING CROWN

One way of making a Reading Crown is by using a brown paper bag. Follow the instructions below to make your own **World Read Aloud Day Reading Crown** the special LitWorld® way!

#### **DIRECTIONS**



At the closed end of the bag, fold the loose flap flat against the bag's bottom



Now, fold the entire bag in half vertically (length-wise)

3



Using scissors, cut a "V" into the bottom of the bag (into the folded flap)



Open the bag. One end should now have the spikes of the crown

5



Carefully fold over the top edge (without spikes) about 1"

6



Your crown is done and can be decorated however you like!

**SOCIAL MEDIA GUIDE** 

#### **LitWorld**

### WORLD READ ALOUD DAY



This World Read Aloud Day, we're celebrating the incredible power of sharing our stories! Every story matters, and everyone's story deserves to be heard!

Help us build the movement on **February 7th, 2024,** by sharing your participation, ideas, and pictures from the day with #WorldReadAloudDay. **Support every voice by adding the hashtag #TellEveryStory.** 

#### **CELEBRATE AND SPREAD THE WORD!**



Take pictures and videos of your WRAD celebrations and tag LitWorld on social media to share your content with the online community.



@litworld



@litworld



@litworldsays

Tell us about the stories that have mattered most to you! Is there a book you read as a child that stuck with you or a recent read that has changed your outlook on the world? Tell us about it in a 30-second-I-minute video! Share, and don't forget to tag LitWorld on social media so we can amplify your message.

Check our **Google Drive folder** for free graphics to use!

#### TWITTER SAMPLE POSTS

Reading is better when we do it together. That's why I'm celebrating #WorldReadAloudDay today, along with millions of other booklovers across the world! Retweet and spread the word. Remember to #TellEveryStory ©litworldsays

Every story matters, and every story deserves the chance to be heard! This #WorldReadAloudDay, join me and @litworldsays to celebrate diverse stories from all around the globe and #TellEveryStory!

#Didyouknow that reading aloud every day puts kids ahead by I year, no matter their background? That's just one of many reasons to join me in celebrating #WorldReadAloudDay today - tag a booklover in your life and spread the word! #TellEveryStory @litworldsays

#### FACEBOOK/INSTAGRAM SAMPLE POSTS

When I was growing up, the book [----] had a huge impact on me. My [-----] read it aloud to me, and I can still remember the words. This #WorldReadAloudDay, tag a fellow booklover to share their favorite read aloud memories and celebrate together with @litworld! #TellEveryStory

Here's one of many reasons to celebrate #WorldReadAloudDay: reading aloud every day is proven to put kids ahead by I year, no matter their background. Grab a book, spread the word, and join @litworld in making a global difference and #TellEveryStory!

Booklovers, join me and millions across the world for #WorldReadAloudDay! #TellEveryStory, spread the word, and let's make this year's celebration one for the books. E@ @litworld

# WEAD READ ALONG A LONG A LONG

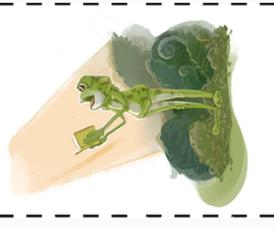


LitWorld

# WORLD READ ALOUD DAY!



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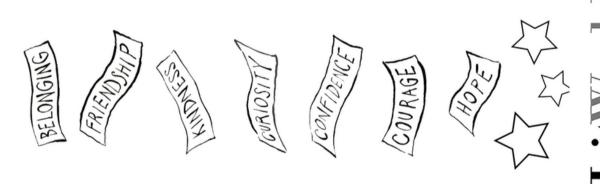
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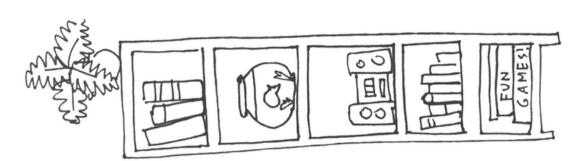


VORLD READ



# WORLD BEED WORLD READ

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY







#### THE WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

## CLASSROOM GUIDE



This world Read Aloud Day, we celebrate how important it is to #TellEveryStory! Use the following resources to get your classroom ready for World Read Aloud Day 2024

7 Week Classroom Countdown Calendar The take home "Read Aloud" pledge and Tracker Day of and Year Round celebration ideas









#### 7-WEEK WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

#### CLASSROOM COUNTDOWN CALENDAR



CELEBRATE WORLD READ ALOUD DAY!

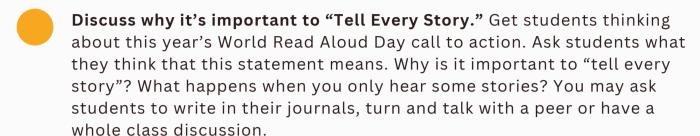


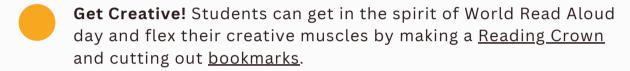


#### THE CLASSROOM GUIDE TO

#### CELEBRATING WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

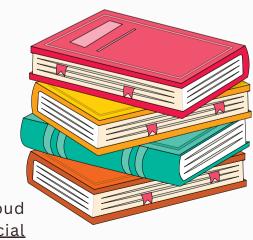
Today is the day! Use the suggestions below to celebrate in your classroom. All of these activities can be adjusted for different age groups and space requirements. Visit LitWorld.org/worldreadaloudday for these resources and more!







- Play a Game! Check out LitWorld's storytelling games here or at <u>litworld.org/worldreadaloudday!</u> Whether you have played these games in the lead up to World Read Aloud Day or are using them now for the first time, they are a great opportunity to get students involved in building their own story.
- Build a Story! Join in on LitWorld's "Build a Story Challenge" and share your story with other storytellers around the globe! Click here or visit <u>LitWorld.org/buildastory</u> for instructions on uploading those stories for world to see!
- Invite a Special Guest! Ask an administrator, fellow teacher, custodian, older student, or a community member to read their favorite stories to your class. This is a great way to engage your community and make space to #TellEveryStory! Help your readers prepare by sharing LitWorld's Read Aloud Tips here.
  - Share with Us! Tell us all about how World Read Aloud Day went in your classroom! You can follow our Social Guide and connect with storytellers around the world.





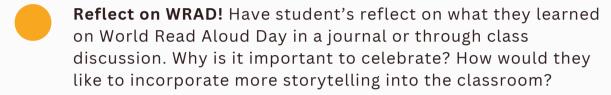


#### THE CLASSROOM GUIDE TO

## CELEBRATING WORLD READ ALOUD DAY ALL YEAR LONG



While World Read Aloud Day is one special day a year, celebrating the act of reading aloud should happen **ALL YEAR LONG**! Here are some ways to keep the celebration going even after the fun of World Read Aloud Day has passed:





- Start a Weekly Read-Aloud! Incorporate a read-aloud into your weekly lesson plans. Embrace the theme of "Tell Every Story" by providing stories from a diversity of perspectives. Check out our <u>book lists</u> for inspiration and add to our <u>virtual bookshelf!</u>
- Play a Weekly Storytelling Game! Storytelling games aren't only a fun way to make sure that you #TellEveryStory, but help promote and practice important literacy skills. Make <a href="storytelling games">storytelling games</a> a weekly tradition in your classroom!
- Launch a Pop-Up Story Slam! Have students brainstorm a story topic, perhaps pulling from the storytelling games above as inspiration, and have them work on it a little every day for a week or once a week for a month. At the end of the week or month, have them share their story and do their own read aloud to the class in a pop-up story slam.
- Stay Connected! Tell us about how your class is celebrating World Read Aloud Day all year long! Follow the <u>Social Guide</u> and connect with storytellers across the world. Be sure to regularly visit <u>litworld.org</u> for new resources and ways to support your storytelling journey!

## RLD READ ALOUD DA'

#### READ ALOUD PLEDGE



Did you know that daily reading aloud to children puts them almost a year ahead of children who do not receive daily read alouds regardless of income, education level or cultural background?

-Melbourne Institute of Applied Economic and Social Research, May 2013

Dear Caregiver,

Join us in the countdown to World Read Aloud Day by pledging to create a space at home where you and your child can read aloud and celebrate the gift of storytelling! Reading aloud not only develops young people's vocabulary, fluency, and listening skills, but helps them become confident, engaged learners who know the power of their own voice. As you and your child read, they can track their progress with the Read Aloud Tracker to see how far they have come.

I,, pledge to Caregiver's Name	make time throug	hout the week to celebrate
the magic of storytelling with _	Student's Name	_!
Caregiver's Signature		
 Student Signature	<del> </del>	





## WORLD READ ALOUD DAY®



#### READ ALOUD TRACKER

There is no *one* way to read aloud! **Any opportunity to hear a story being told is a good one**. That means a caregiver could be the "reader" and you (the student) can be the "listener," or you can be the reader and your sibling could be the listener. A family pet can even be your listener! Be sure to include who is reading to whom in the space below!

Date	Book Title & Author	Reader	Listener

