



SOUTH LOOP
LION PRIDE

SOUTH LOOP READS

WELCOME BACK WE ARE GLAD TO SEE YOU!

Vol 1 Q1 SY25



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Important Announcements

Welcome Back to SLES we are super excited that you are back for the 2024-2025 school year! We would like to remind you of our school-wide reading initiative, South Loop Reads. Quarterly newsletters will provide suggested student and adult readings, helpful at-home resources for parents, what's happening in SLES literacy, and community literacy activities and events. This is intended to get all students and their families involved in reading more regularly. We strongly encourage families to incorporate reading as part of your everyday routines. Reading can and should occur together as a family or individually. Reading opens up new worlds, broadens our perspectives, and fuels our imagination. Whether it's fiction, non-fiction, articles, or poetry, there's always something new to discover and learn through reading. There are many benefits to reading; it expands vocabulary, improves sleep, improves writing skills, develops empathy, and improves focus and concentration, to name a few. We encourage you to pick up a good book and read today.



What's Happening in Language Arts

Students have taken the Star 360 Assessment in September. The Star 360 assessment is a comprehensive suite of screening, diagnostic and progress monitoring assessments used to assess students in grades 3-12 for Math and ELA, in both English and Spanish. This assessment was used to determine basic skill levels and identify students possibly needing additional support in Math or Literacy. We also use this assessment to determine specific skill gaps and guide instruction and/or intervention planning. For further information about your child's Star360 assessment or how to support your children with literacy at home, please feel free to check in with your child's teacher at your earliest convenience.

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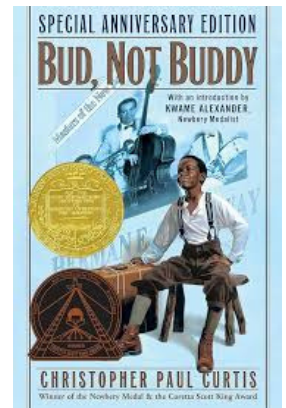
Suggested Readings

Students should read at least 20 minutes a day outside of school time.

PreK - 2 It's Okay to Be Different by Todd Parr is a children's picture book that encourages kids to embrace their individuality and accept others. The book highlights the many ways people are different, including personalities, abilities, talents, appearances, and family types. It also conveys messages of acceptance, understanding, and confidence in a way that's accessible to children.



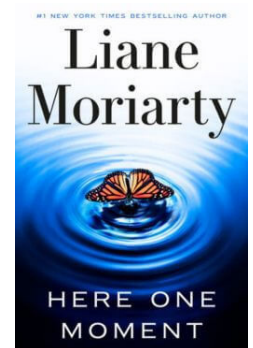
3rd - 5th Bud, Not Buddy, is a well-crafted, funny tale of an orphan's poignant search for a home that will keep readers turning the page. Bud, a 10-year-old African American boy, runs away from his abusive foster family in Flint, Michigan, where his foster brother beat him up and his foster parents locked him up overnight in a shed, where he was stung by a nest of hornets. He embarks on a journey to find his father that leads him to Grand Rapids. Along the way, he endures fear, and there are frank descriptions of the horrors of the Great Depression of the 1930s.



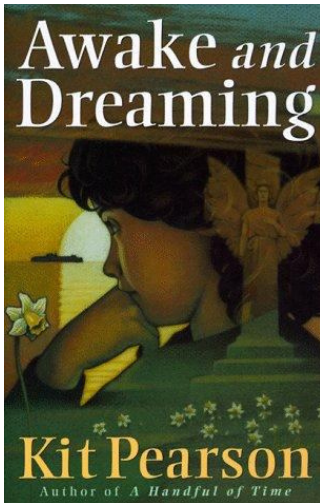
6th - 8th Kate has suffered from leukemia since she was a toddler, and her younger sister Anna was conceived for the blood and bone marrow that would help Kate fight the disease. But when it seems Kate might need a kidney, Anna decides that, though she loves her sister, enough is enough.



Adult - When they board their short domestic flight, none of the passengers think that it will change their lives forever. They land safely at their destination and regale their family and friends with a tale of "The Death Lady" who oddly predicted the date of each of their deaths. When three passengers die exactly as she predicted, the rest of the passengers begin to wonder what they can do to live their lives in the time remaining and what they are willing to do to defy fate.



Book of the Quarter



While living a miserable, poverty-stricken life with her young, irresponsible mother, nine-year-old Theo dreams of belonging to a real family but finds a shadowy figure haunting her thoughts.



At-Home Resources

Reading Apps

www.starfall.com
www.learnwithhomer.com
www.getepic.com

Reading at Home

[Reading Rewards That Work](#)
[Easy Ways to Get Your Kids To Read This Year](#)
[Growing Readers](#)

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Visist a local library

<u>Harold Washington Library Center</u>	400 S State St, Chicago, IL 60605
<u>Chinatown</u>	2100 S Wentworth Avenue, Chicago, IL 60616
<u>West Loop</u>	122 N. Aberdeen Street, Chicago, IL 60607

Community Literacy Activities & Evetns

Event	Date/Time	Location
One-On-One Basic Computer Skills Interested in learning more about how to use the computer or need a refresher? We are now offering one-on-one basic computer skills development through the online resource Chicago Digital Learn. If you prefer to use your own laptop, feel free to bring it. Up to three, one-hour session per person. Sessions are by appointment only.	This will occur on Suddays 1:00PM – 4:30PM Sunday, September 1st - Sunday, December 29th	<u>Chicago Bee</u> 3647 S. State Street Chicago IL 60609 Contact: Kenneth Johnson Telephone: (312) 747-6872 Email: kjohnson12@chipublib.org
Chi-Soul Workshops with Avery R. Young Avery R. Young, Chicago's first Poet Laureate will lead "chi-soul workshops" at the Austin Branch. The workshops are designed for any writer, from beginners to experienced, to build poems and poetry manuscripts centered on the times and tales of Chicago.	Workshops will take place the first Sunday of each month, May through November. 2:00PM – 4:00PM	5615 W. Race Avenue Chicago IL 60644 Telephone: (312) 746-5038 Email: adultservices@chipublib.org
Citizenship Classes with Heartland Human Care Services Prepare for the citizenship exam and interview during this 8-week class. This class is taught in English and students must be able to read, write and speak English.	Classes will take place on Tuesdays and Fridays 10:00AM – 11:30AM Friday, September 6 Tuesday, September 10 Friday, September 13 Tuesday, September 17 Friday, September 20	<u>Portage-Cragin</u> 5108 W. Belmont Avenue Chicago IL 60641 Contact: Denise Telephone: (312) 744-0152 Email: dseban@chipublib.org

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Story Time Join Ms. Izabel for a fun filled fall story time especially for our littlest patrons! We'll share songs, rhymes and books, plus suggestions for at-home activities. For kids 0 to 5 and their caregivers.	Tuesday, September 3 (10:30AM – 11:30AM) Tuesday, September 10 (10:30AM – 11:30AM)	Beverly 1962 W. 95th Street Chicago IL 60643 Contact: Izabel Gronska Telephone: (312) 747-9673 Email: igronska@chipublib.org
Literacy Chicago's ESL Series: English Conversation Do you want to practice speaking and understanding English and improve your communications skills? Then join Literacy Chicago instructors for 90 minutes of English conversation on current events, life in Chicago and many other topics. Learn to be more confident in expressing yourself in English and gain conversational vocabulary while meeting new people and having fun!	This group meets every Tuesday at 6:00pm to 7:30pm. Tuesday, September 3rd - Tuesday, December 17th	West Town 1625 W. Chicago Avenue Chicago IL 60622 Contact: Literacy Chicago Telephone: (312) 858-6020 Email: info@literacychicago.org
Adult Nonfiction Book Club: The Death and Life of the Great Lakes Join us at Harold Washington Library Center on the 1st Saturday of each month at 1:00pm for a nonfiction book discussion for adults. You may pick up a copy one month in advance at the Business, Science, Technology, and Government Documents Reference Desk on the 4th floor of the Harold Washington Library Center. September's selection is <u>The Death and Life of the Great Lakes</u> by Dan Egan. October's selection is <u>Gender Queer</u> by Maia Kobabe. November's selection is <u>Eve: How the Female Body Drove 200 Million Years of Human Evolution</u> by Cat Bohannon.	1st Saturday of each month at 1:00PM – 2:00PM Saturday, September 7 Saturday, October 5 	Harold Washington Library Center 400 S. State Street Chicago IL 60605 Contact: Stuart F. and Rachel M. Telephone: (312) 747-4442 Email: sfraser@chipublib.org , rmcguire@chipublib.org

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English Class for Beginners With Erie House/Clases de Inglés Para Principiantes con La Casa Erie Join us in the Popular Library at the Harold Washington Library Center for an English language class led by <u>Erie House</u>. In each class, you will learn basic English and about the library's English study resources such as <u>Cell-Ed</u>. <u>Erie House</u> is a modern social service nonprofit with programming and resources for children and youth, mental health and community wellness, adult education and training, legal services, and more. Son invitados a tomar una clase de inglés dirigida por un maestro de <u>Erie House</u> en la Popular Library en el primer piso de la Biblioteca Harold Washington. En cada clase aprenderá inglés básico y cómo usar recursos tales como <u>Cell-Ed</u>. <u>Erie House</u> es una organización comunitaria sin fines de lucro comprometida con el bienestar de las familias. Provee programas para niños, jóvenes, adultos y familias. Ofrece recursos sobre la salud mental y bienestar comunitario, educación y entrenamiento para adultos, servicios legales, y más.	 Monday, September 9 Monday, September 16 Monday, September 23 Monday, September 30 6:00PM – 7:00PM Lunes 9 de septiembre Lunes 16 de septiembre Lunes 23 de septiembre Lunes 30 de septiembre 6:00PM – 7:00PM	 <u>Harold Washington Library Center</u> 400 S. State Street Chicago IL 60605 Contact: Young Telephone: (312) 747-4100 Email: ypark@chipublib.org 
Adult Fiction Book Discussion On Saturday, September 21, we'll discuss the novel <u>Chronicle of A Death Foretold</u> by Nobel Prize winner Gabriel García Márquez. On Saturday, October 19, we'll discuss <u>The Revenant: A Novel of Revenge</u> by Michael Punke. On Saturday, November 16, we'll discuss the novel <u>The History of Love</u> by Nicole Krauss.	Saturday, September 21 Saturday, October 19 Saturday, November 16 11:00AM – 12:00PM	<u>Harold Washington Library Center</u> 400 S. State Street Chicago IL 60605 Contact: Literature & Language Department Telephone: (312) 747-4700

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ESL Practice: English Conversation Group Do you want to practice speaking and understanding English and improve your communications skills? Join our conversation group with Literacy Chicago and improve your ability to communicate. This conversation group is for people who already know some English and would like more practice. This group focuses on having lively discussions about current events, life in Chicago, and many other topics. Learn to be more confident in expressing yourself in English, gain conversational vocabulary, meet new people, and have fun! Please apply for enrollment at the Literacy Chicago website before attending your first session. For more information, contact info@literacychicago.org or call (312) 858-6020. ¿Quiere practicar hablar y comprender inglés y mejorar sus habilidades comunicativas? Únase a nuestro grupo de conversación con Literacy Chicago y mejore su capacidad de comunicarse. Este grupo de conversación es para personas que ya saben algo de inglés y les gustaría practicar más. Por favor solicite la inscripción en el sitio web de Literacy Chicago antes de asistir a su primera sesión. Para obtener más información, comuníquese con info@literacychicago.org o llame al (312) 858-6020.	 The Fall session of this group meets on Wednesday afternoons from September 11 to December 20. 3:00PM – 4:30PM La sesión de otoño de este grupo se reúne los miércoles por la tarde del 11 de septiembre al 20 de diciembre. 3:00PM – 4:30PM 	<u>Harold Washington Library Center</u> 400 S. State Street Chicago IL 60605 <u>Contact:</u> Literacy Chicago <u>Telephone:</u> (312) 858-6020 <u>Email:</u> info@literacychicago.org
Silent Read-In Join an adult book club for introverts and make progress toward your reading goals. Don't have something to read? Check out our curated book lists.	Saturday, September 28 Saturday, October 26 1:00PM – 2:00PM	<u>Harold Washington Library Center</u> 400 S. State Street Chicago IL 60605 <u>Contact:</u> Thomas Beheler <u>Telephone:</u> (312) 747-4100 <u>Email:</u> tbeheler@chipublib.org

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Shut Up & Write: Writing Program That thing you want to write isn't going to write itself! Join the Chicago chapter of <u>Shut Up & Write</u>, hosted by Shauntionne. Quietly, members carve time into their everyday lives to focus on the craft we love the most, and find camaraderie amongst fellow writers in Chicagoland.	Mondays October 7th - December 16th 5:30PM – 7:30PM	<u>Harold Washington Library Center</u> 400 S. State Street Chicago IL 60605 <u>Contact:</u> Sharon Gissy <u>Email:</u> sgissy@chipublib.org
College and Career Saturdays: Visual Arts, Gaming and Graphic Design Design Your Life After High School by exploring the wide variety of options available to you after you graduate! • Network with industry professionals. • Learn about opportunities, internships, college and trade programs. • Discover what it takes to pursue your passions. • Engage and fun related activities that give you a taste of the field of choice. • Win prizes that will help you get started. • Get free lunch! Each event will cover a different field. This one is on careers and opportunities in Visual Arts, Gaming and Graphic Design. For ages 14-22. Online registration is encouraged! Note: The event starts at 1pm and the first hour is open for industry presenter tables, partner tables, programs, lunch, and activities. The panel discussion with industry professionals and the raffle of prizes doesn't begin until 2pm. Winners must be present to claim their prizes.	Saturday, November 16 1:00PM – 3:00PM	<u>Harold Washington Library Center</u> 400 S. State Street Chicago IL 60605 <u>Contact:</u> Faith Rice <u>Telephone:</u> (312) 747-4210 <u>Email:</u> frice@chipublib.org



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