



Welcome!



Becca Boland, iREAD Content and Development Manager

Tina Koleva, iREAD/ILA Deputy Director



Agenda

iREAD 2026: *Plant A Seed, Read*

iREAD 2027: *Reading Expands Our Universe*

iREAD 2028: Theme Development

iREAD Store, details on the ordering process, and specific state arrangements
Instructions on how to redeem a promo code for the downloadable Resource
Guide

Q & A

2026 iREAD® Summer Reading Program



Created by: Jory John & Pete Oswald



Artist: Hatem Aly



Artist: Wendy Xu



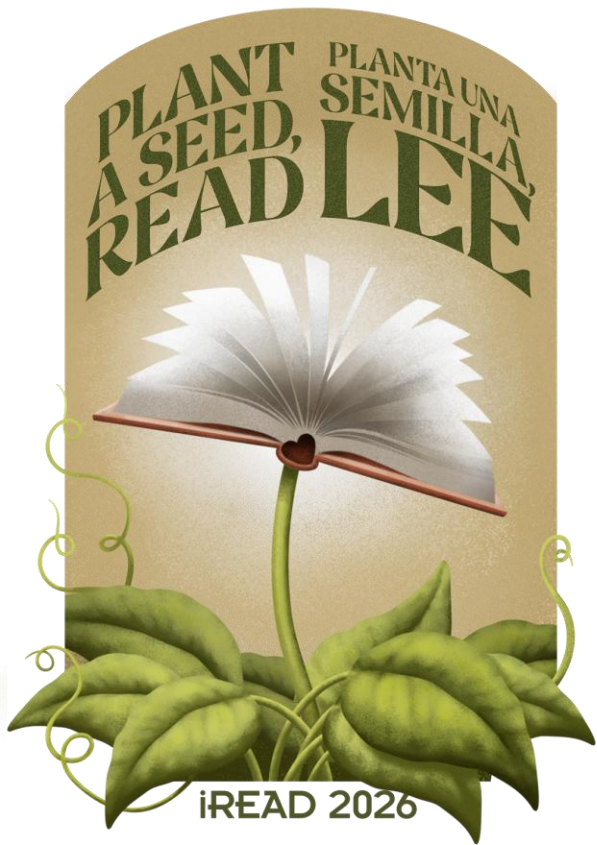
Artist: Sarah Ferone



SINCE 1981
iREAD
BY LIBRARIANS FOR LIBRARIANS

PLANT A SEED, READ • PLANTA UNA SEMILLA, LEE

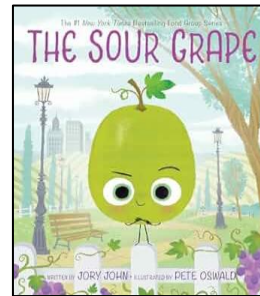
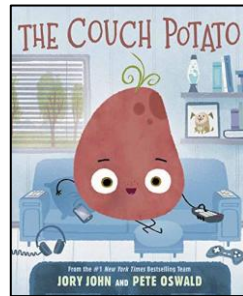
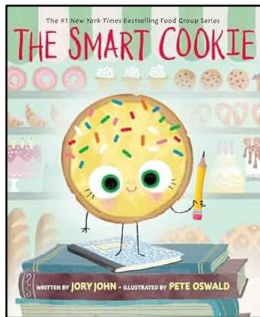
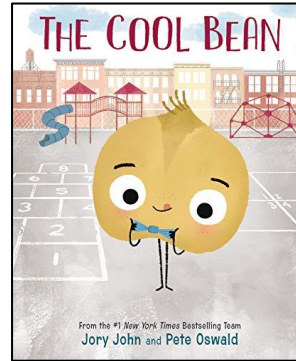
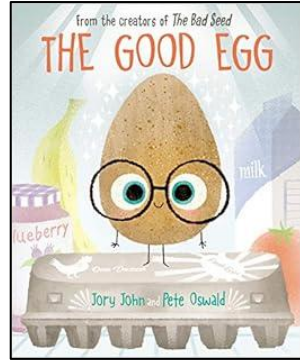
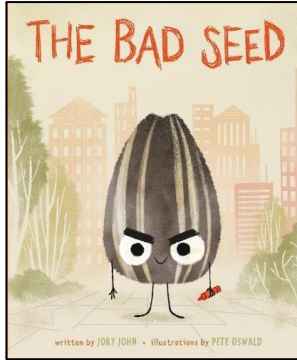




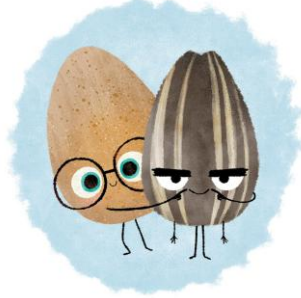
Mission Statement

Plant a Seed, Read is rooted in the concept of farm to table. A farm grows food that nourishes our bodies; a library grows ideas that nourish our minds. Both food and stories connect us to our family, culture, economy, and ecology. iREAD 2026: *Plant a Seed, Read* will provide a context for exploring culture, history, science, health, and human connection.

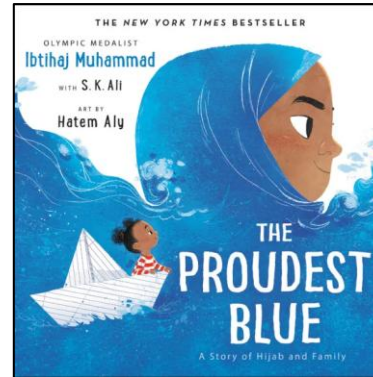
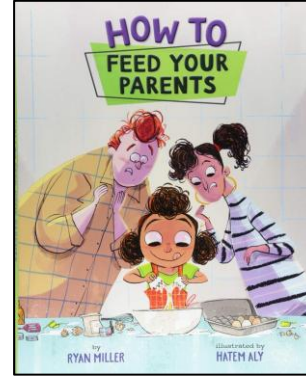
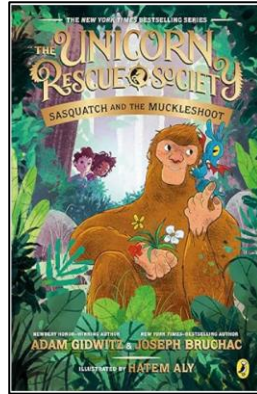
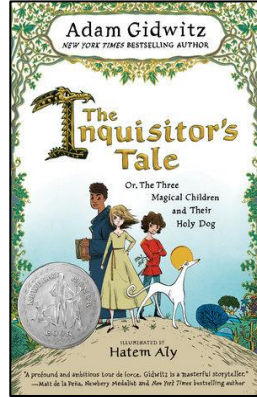
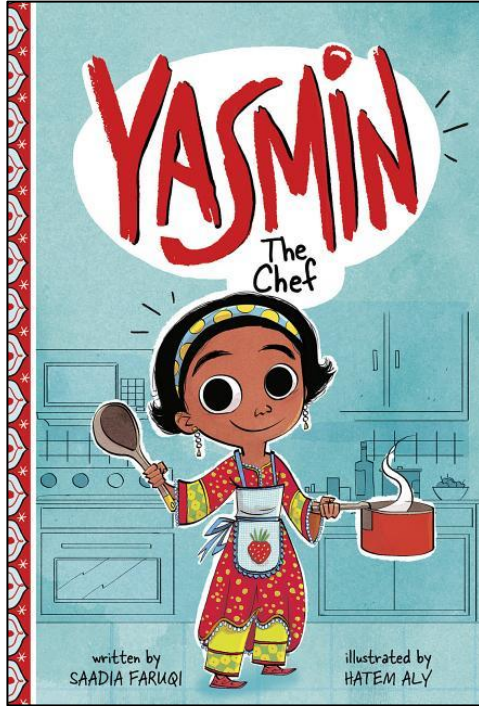
Pete Oswald and Jory John



Pete Oswald and Jory John



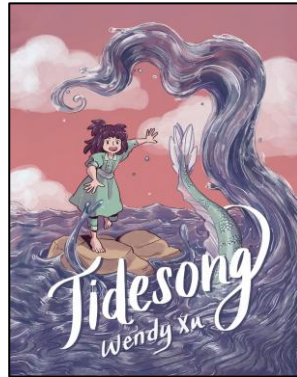
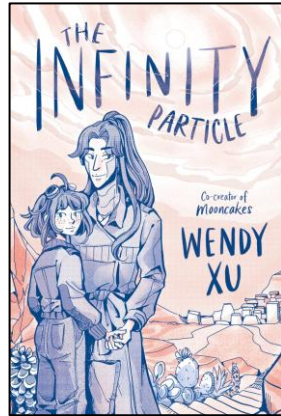
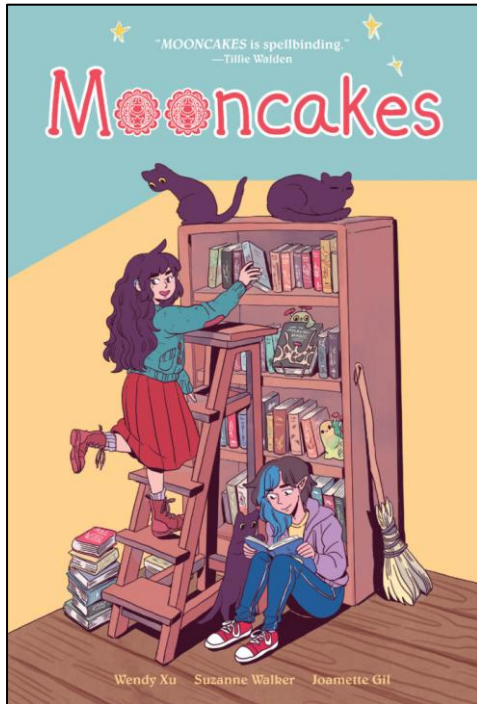
Hatem Aly



Hatem Aly



Wendy Xu



Wendy Xu



Sarah Ferone



Sarah Ferone



iREAD 2026: PSA



Dates to Remember!

iREAD 2026 Showcase

Thursday, December 4, 2025

12:00 - 1:00 p.m. CST

iREAD Resource Guide Deep Dive:

Programming, Crafts, Maker Ideas, Resource Guide Tips & Tricks

Wednesday, December 17, 2025

1:00 - 2:00 pm CST

iREAD Resource Guide Deep Dive:

Decorations, Displays, Resource Guide Tips & Tricks

Wednesday, January 14, 2026

1:00 - 2:00 pm CST



<https://www.ireadprogram.org/resources/iread-learning-opportunities>

Theme for 2027: SCIENCE FICTION

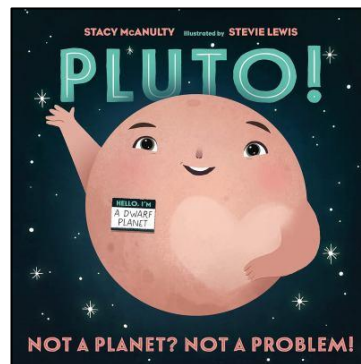
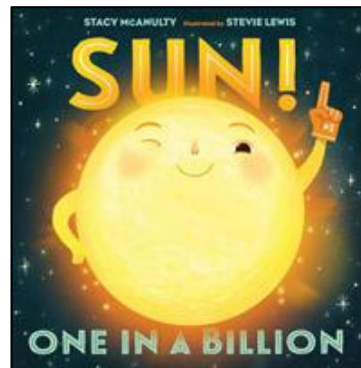
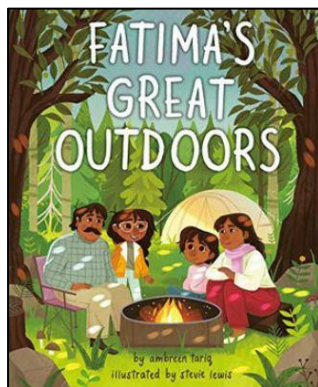
READING EXPANDS OUR UNIVERSE



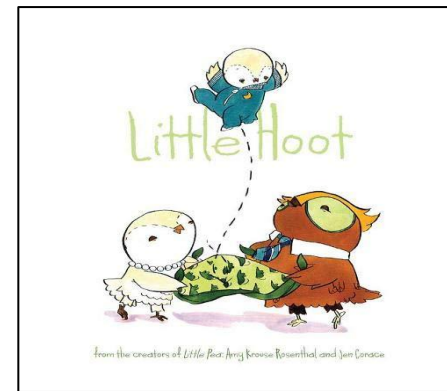
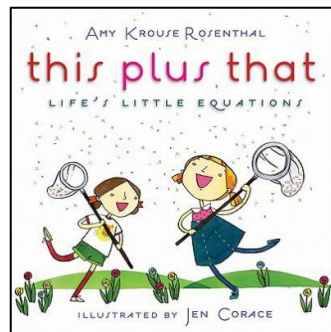
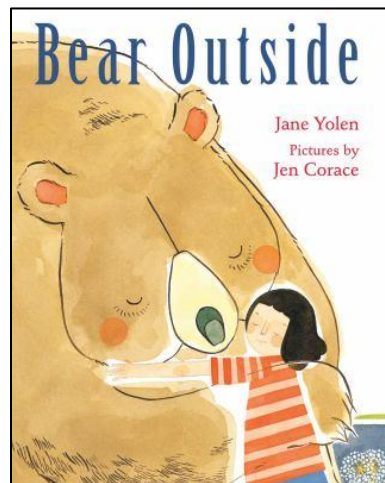
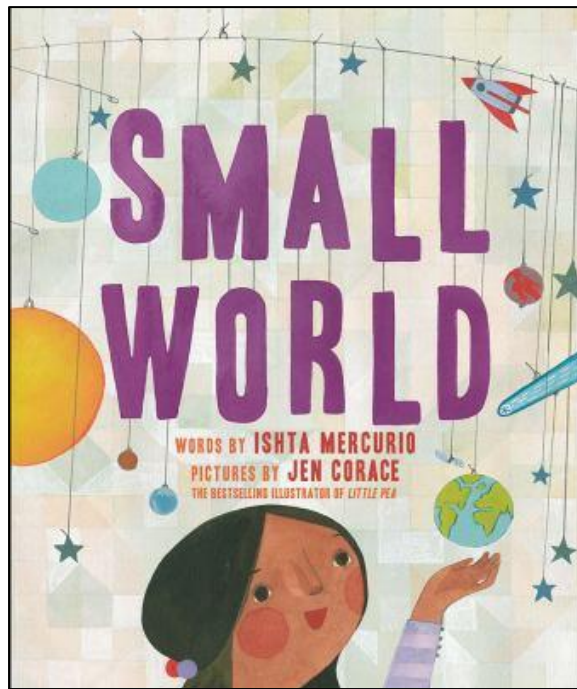
Mission Statement

Science fiction encourages us to dream big, take risks, and imagine a future enhanced by human innovation. Libraries make contemporary technology accessible and provide access to stories that encourage patrons of all ages to explore a world greater than themselves. The beauty of science fiction is that there is a niche for everyone; whether you want robot butlers, dream of a solar-powered utopia, or yearn for time travel. These stories have brought us into the furthest reaches of space, shrunk us down so that we can explore the jungle of our own backyards, and helped readers to examine what it means to lead a human life on Earth. With *iRead 2027: Reading Expands Our Universe*, we invite libraries and their patrons to dream big, take risks, and enjoy a summer of exploration and imagination.

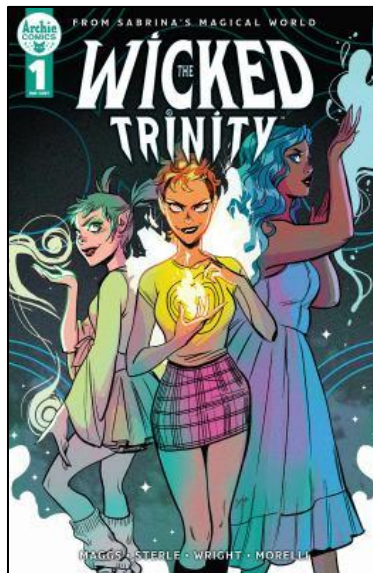
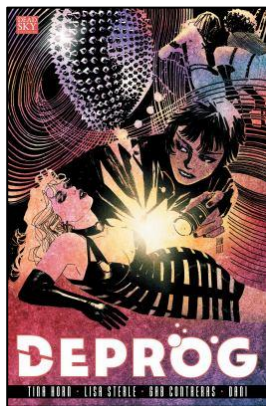
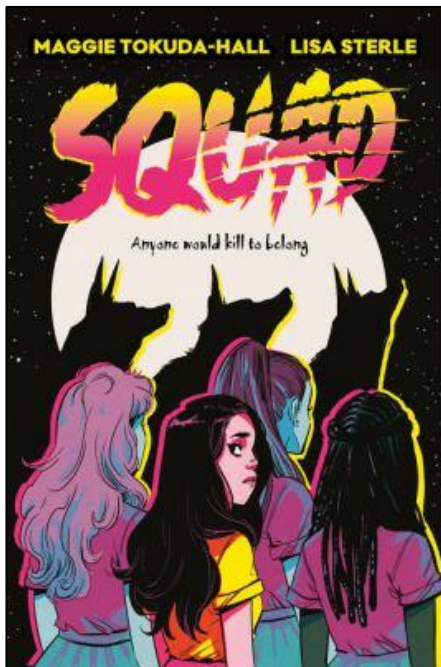
Stevie Lewis



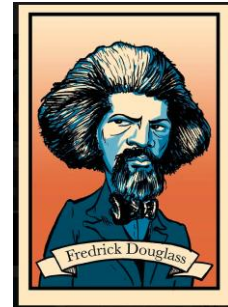
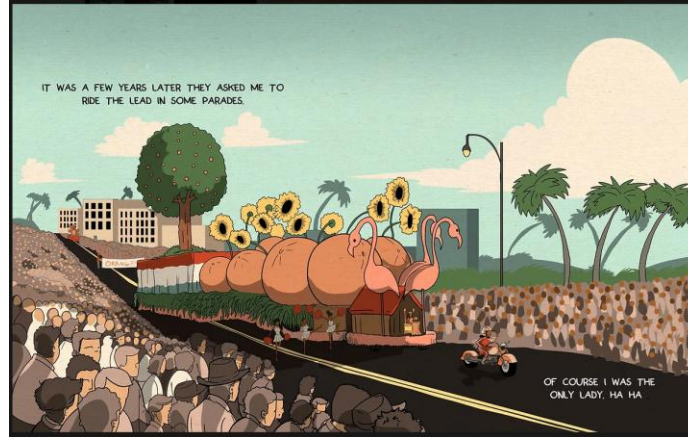
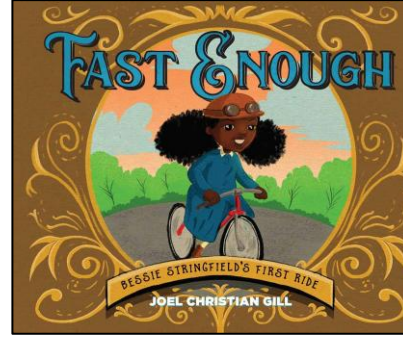
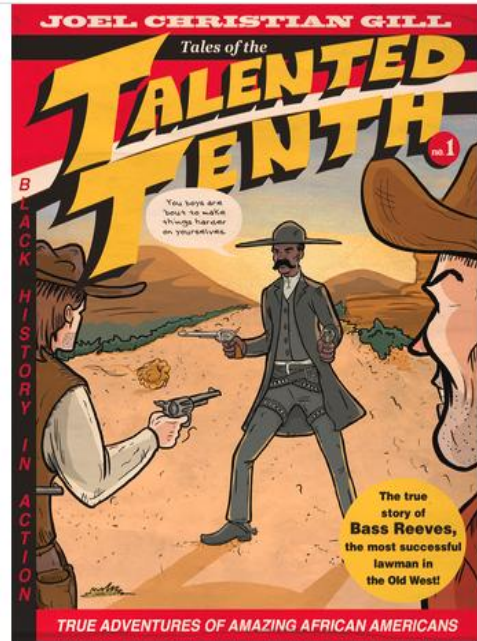
Jen Corace



Lisa Sterle



Joel Christian Gill





Resource Guide

- The heart of the program
- By librarians, for librarians
- Suggestions, ideas, bibliographies, scripts
- Reproducible artwork—use in perpetuity
- Transparent criteria for theme and graphics



2027 Resource Guide

Two opportunities to participate:

- Volunteer for the Resource Guide Team
- Submit your idea/program/bibliography/article!



Broad thematic area:

Craft, Hobbies, and Maker

Jennie Stevens, Thomas Ford Memorial Library

iREAD 2028 Chair

Theme for 2028: Craft, Hobbies, and Maker



2028 Vision statement:

Crafting and creating encourage us to use our imaginations and let it take shape with our own hands. Libraries, through books, craft classes, makerspaces and more, not only foster but encourage these expressions of innovation and artistry. Whether you decide to write stories, knit, 3D print, crochet, embroider, woodwork, brew potions, draw or paint, there is a niche and an art, for everyone. The emergence of recording equipment, sewing machines, green screens, button makers, heat presses, engravers and more being available at so many libraries truly illustrates the importance of making. Through crafting we can connect not only with others, but with ourselves as we let our imagination create our unique visions of the world. With iRead 2028, we encourage readers and libraries everywhere to celebrate these artistic pursuits for both the end products, and the restorative act of creating.



Criteria for Theme

Be universal in promoting reading

Be focused in interpretation

Be dynamic and imply action

Be appropriate for all genders



Criteria for Theme

Include the word "book," "read," or "library"
(or related)

Lend itself to strong graphic interpretation
Have appeal to preK-8 students, YA, adults,
and library staff



Themes & Taglines

2027: Science Fiction/ *Reading Expands Our Universe*

2026: Farm to Table/ *Plant A Seed, Read*

2025: Games & Puzzles/ *Level Up at Your Library*

2024: Conservation/ *Read, Renew, Repeat*

2023: Voice/ *Find Your Voice!*

2022: Camp/ *Read Beyond the Beaten Path*

2021: Color/ *Reading Colors Your World*

Tagline voting!

<https://tinyurl.com/iREAD-Tagline-2028>





How It Works

- Both the store and the Resource Guide are available now
- As a state partner, participating libraries will receive a code and instructions on how to access their copy of the 2026 iREAD Resource Guide
- Initial communication, the code and instructions will come from your state



RG Redeemable Codes

- Live demo of how to redeem your state-specific code and download the Resource Guide & Graphics
- Tips for accessing the download after redeeming the code
- iREAD accounts overview, access and iREAD Customer Service - iREAD@ila.org

Questions, Comments, Feedback?

Explore:

[iREAD FAQs](#)

[Shipping Schedule](#)

Have questions or need assistance?

Email us: iREAD@ila.org

