

# GEORGIA★READS DAY

September 22, 2025

Teacher/Parent Toolkit



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

Dear Educators,

Thank you for your interest in celebrating Georgia Reads Day on September 22, 2025. We hope you will use this day to shine a spotlight on the joy, power, and importance of reading and literacy in our schools and communities!

Georgia Reads Day is an opportunity to reinforce structured literacy practices through creative activities. While the day may be perfect for a special read-aloud or guest reader, it is more than just reading! It is also about engaging students, families, and communities in activities for vocabulary development, knowledge-building, writing, speaking, and listening.

This toolkit was created by Georgia educators to support your planning for Georgia Reads Day. Please tune into Georgia Public Broadcasting (GPB) for the live stream from the College Football Hall of Fame, with author and Super Bowl champion, Malcolm Mitchell, on September 22. There are also additional [resources](#) available on Malcolm Mitchell's Share the Magic Foundation website.

If you have any questions about Georgia Reads Day, contact Sarah Richards ([sarah.richards@gosa.ga.gov](mailto:sarah.richards@gosa.ga.gov)) or Bryttney Bailey ([bryttney.bailey@gosa.ga.gov](mailto:bryttney.bailey@gosa.ga.gov)).

Please share your Georgia Reads Day celebration on social media by using #GeorgiaReads. Thank you for reading!

The following are possible sentence-construction options related to the read-aloud, *The Magician's Hat*. Students could write their completed versions on dry-erase boards.


Focus	Examples and Prompts
Because, but, so	<p><b>Students will complete the same sentence stem three times, using a different conjunction (because, but, so) each time.</b></p> <p>Ex: The magician offered students his hat because _____.  The magician offered students his hat, but _____.  The magician offered students his hat, so _____.</p>
Sentence Expansion	<p><b>Provide a simple sentence.</b> Ex: He read.</p> <p><b>Then add who, what, when, where, why, and how. Start by asking students 2-3 of the question words to expand the sentence.</b></p> <p>For example, by adding who, what, and why, you might end with  <i>"Malcolm Mitchell read <u>The Magician's Hat</u> to get students excited about reading."</i></p>
Sentence Combining	<p><b>Provide two short sentences. Ask partners to generate as many different sentences as they can by combining the two sentences.</b></p> <p>Ex: <i>Amy pulled a book out of the hat. Matt watched the magician.</i>  Possible Sentences:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Amy pulled a book out of the hat, and Matt watched the magician.</li> <li>- Matt watched the magician as Amy pulled a book out of the hat.</li> <li>- Matt watched the magician, but Amy pulled a book out of the hat!</li> <li>- While Amy pulled a book out of the hat, Matt watched the magician.</li> <li>- After Amy pulled a book out of the hat, Matt watched the magician.</li> <li>- Matt watched the magician because Amy pulled a book out of the hat.</li> <li>- Did Matt watch the magician when Amy pulled a book out of the hat?</li> </ul>
Four Types of Sentences	<p><b>Provide students with a subject and a verb. Have students generate a declarative statement, a question, a command, and/or an exclamation</b></p> <p>Ex: Subject - magician  Verb - turn</p> <p>Example:  <b>Declarative:</b> The magician turned his hat toward the crowd.  <b>Question:</b> Did the magician turn my teacher into a rabbit?  <b>Command:</b> Turn her back into a teacher.  <b>Exclamation:</b> Wow! The magician turned the empty box into a birthday cake!</p> <p>To scaffold, provide parts of the sentences above and allow students to complete the rest.</p>
Correcting Fragments	<p><b>Example fragment:</b> <i>reached into his magical hat.</i>  <b>Ask:</b> Is this a fragment or a complete sentence?  <b>Ask:</b> Is it missing the who or the do? (or subject/predicate)  <b>Have students complete the fragmented sentence:</b> Ex: The magician reached into his magical hat.</p>


## Teacher Note:


- Choose 1-3 words from the following slides to dive into as a class. These words come from Malcolm Mitchell’s book, *The Magician’s Hat*, which he will read during the kickoff for Georgia Reads Day.
- The organizers are set up to show:


<b>Target word</b> (this would also be the section to include morphology, if appropriate)	
<b>Student-friendly definition</b>  Synonyms could be added here	<b>Image to represent target word</b> You might ask, “How does this image represent the word _____?” (Encourage students to use the target word in their responses.)
<b>Example sentences</b> You might have partners read the sentences for fluency practice.	<b>Turn-and-talk prompts</b> Each partner would have the opportunity to read a question for their partner as well as generate an original response to their partner’s question.

\*The template for the graphic organizer was based on the Essential Words Routine from <https://greatmiddleschools.org/words/>

<b>Word:</b> rally	<b>Morphology:</b> re- (again) + ally (to unite)
<p><b>Rally</b> means to come together with other people to show support for something.</p>	
<p>After the storm, the neighborhood <b>rallied</b> and helped clean up.</p> <p>Malcolm Mitchell hosted a <b>rally</b> at my school to celebrate the power of reading!</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What type of <b>rally</b> would you like to attend? I would like to attend a _____ <b>rally</b> because...</li> <li>1. When have you <b>rallied</b> with others? We <b>rallied</b> when...</li> </ol>

<b>Word:</b> eager	
<p><b>Eager</b> means wanting to do something very much and feeling excited about it.</p>	
<p>I am <b>eager</b> to go on the field trip.</p> <p>The students <b>eagerly</b> listened to the mystery reader's story.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What are you looking forward to doing this school year? I am <b>eager</b> to _____ because...</li> <li>1. What are some things you are eager for outside of school? I am <b>eager</b> to _____ because... I am <b>eager</b> for _____ because...</li> </ol>

<b>Word: snicker</b>	
<p><b><u>Snicker</u></b> means to laugh quietly in a sneaky or silly way.</p>	
<p>The teacher heard her students <b><u>snickering</u></b> behind their books.</p> <p>There were <b><u>snickers</u></b> in the room after the silly video played.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Tell me about something silly that made you laugh quietly. <i>I <b><u>snickered</u></b> when...</i></li> <li>1. Why does Ryan <b><u>snicker</u></b> when he answers the magician in the story? <i>Ryan <b><u>snickers</u></b> because...</i></li> </ol>

<b>Word: hurtle</b>	
<p><b><u>Hurtle</u></b> means to move very fast, often in a way that seems out of control.</p>	
<p>The soccer ball <b><u>hurtled</u></b> across the field toward the goal.</p> <p>Did you see the dog go <b><u>hurtling</u></b> past to catch the black cat?</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. What is something that might <b><u>hurtle</u></b> through the air? _____ might <b><u>hurtle</u></b> through the air because... _____ might <b><u>hurtle</u></b> through the air when...</li> <li>1. How does something <b><u>hurtling</u></b> toward you make you feel? What would you do? <i>If _____ came <b><u>hurtling</u></b> toward me, I would...</i></li> </ol>



Dear Families,

We invite you to join us in celebrating Georgia Reads Day on September 22, 2025. It is a special day dedicated to sharing the joy of reading and growing strong, confident readers together! Throughout the month, Georgia Reads will host activities that build excitement around books and encourage students to develop a lifelong love of reading.

Family involvement plays a powerful role in helping children become fluent, comprehending readers. When children see the adults in their lives reading and enjoying books, they are more likely to develop that same passion and motivation. That's why we invite YOU to be part of the reading celebration!

Here are some ways your family can participate.

**Mystery Reader Visits:** Sign up to surprise the class as a Mystery Reader! Bring a favorite book (or choose one from their classroom collection) and share the joy of reading with the class.

**Library Adventures:** Visit the local public library, explore new books, and help your child get their very own library card!

**Read Together at Home:** Set aside 10–15 minutes each evening to read with your child. Help them enter their reading time on the classroom log. Check out reading tips at <https://www.readingrockets.org/literacy-home/literacy-tips-activities/parent-reading-tips-multiple-languages>.

**Share Your Stories:** Talk with your child about favorite books or stories from your childhood. Ask them what books they love, and why!

More information will be sent including a calendar of reading events and volunteer forms. We can't wait to make this month a special one for our young readers...with your help!

Thank you for partnering with Georgia Reads to build a community where reading is celebrated every day.

## “Ask Me” Cards (K-2)

To spark joyful, high-quality conversations between children and families about reading experiences.

### Ask Me About...

<p>...my favorite part of the book I read today.</p> <p>➤ <i>Why did I like it? What made it exciting, funny, or surprising?</i></p>	<p>...a character I met in my story.</p> <p>➤ <i>What are they like? What choices did they make?</i></p>	<p>...where and when my story took place.</p> <p>➤ <i>Would I want to visit that setting? Why or why not?</i></p>
<p>...what I think will happen next in the book.</p> <p>➤ <i>What clues helped me make a prediction?</i></p>	<p>...what this book reminded me of.</p> <p>➤ <i>Does it connect to my life, another book, or something I've learned before?</i></p>	<p>...a new word I learned today.</p> <p>➤ <i>What does it mean, and how can I use it in a sentence?</i></p>
<p>...why I think the author wrote this book.</p> <p>➤ <i>What message or feeling were they trying to share?</i></p>	<p>...how the book made me feel.</p> <p>➤ <i>Did it make me laugh, wonder, or feel proud? Why?</i></p>	<p>...what I would change if I were the author.</p> <p>➤ <i>Would I change the ending, characters, or setting?</i></p>
<p>...what I want to read next!</p> <p>➤ <i>What kinds of books or topics interest me now?</i></p>		



Name \_\_\_\_\_

## TIC-TAC-TOE

Choose three activities (vertical, horizontal, diagonal) to complete the tic-tac-toe.

Mark out the activities that you complete using an X or O.

Watch Malcolm Mitchell read My Very Favorite Book in the Whole Wide World on YouTube and draw a picture to show which part you liked the most.

Read a book and make paper bag or sock puppets of characters from the book.

Design a bookmark that celebrates Georgia Reads and the joy of reading.

Read a book with a grown-up. Draw your favorite part of a book and tell someone about it.

Share your favorite book on social media using the hashtag #GeorgiaReads and tag your school and district.

Pretend you're a teacher and read a book to a favorite stuffed animal.

Make a poster that says "Reading is Magic!" with stars, books, and your name.

Use your favorite book(s) to find 3 new or fun words. Draw pictures to show what they mean.

Make your own mini book using folded paper. Draw pictures and write a story.

Name \_\_\_\_\_

## TIC-TAC-TOE

Choose three activities (vertical, horizontal, diagonal) to complete the tic-tac-toe.  
Mark out the activities that you complete using an X or O.

Watch Malcolm Mitchell read My Very Favorite Book in the Whole Wide World on YouTube. Write a letter to Malcolm Mitchell sharing your favorite part.

Make a collage of words and images from magazines that represent what reading means to you.

Start a "Reading Journal" to track books you will read this year. Include your thoughts about each one.

Write your own short story inspired by a favorite book character.

Share your favorite book on social media using the hashtag **#GeorgiaReads** and tag your school and district.

Read aloud to a family member or pet and record a short video or audio clip of your reading.

Create a flyer advertising your favorite book- include a title, summary, and why someone should read it.

Create a comic strip or poem that expresses how reading can be magical or life-changing.

Design a bookmark that celebrates Georgia Reads and the joy of reading.



**SEPTEMBER IS LIBRARY CARD SIGN-UP MONTH!**

***A free public library card***  
can help kids discover more at the library,  
online, and at great places around the state.



### **Read**

Books, ebooks,  
and audiobooks



### **Learn**

Homework help  
and online tutoring



### **Explore**

Passes to museums  
and state parks



### **Connect**

After-school activities  
and STEM programs



**With a library card, students can prepare  
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**[georgialibraries.org/kids](http://georgialibraries.org/kids)**

