

Worldwide at least 793 million people remain illiterate.

Imagine a world where everyone can read...

EDUCATE

Read aloud with loved ones or new friends and talk together about the importance of global literacy, marking this as a special day of reading! Visit litworld.org for recommendations, worksheets, read-alouds, videos and other resources to help guide and inspire you.

ADVOCATE

Spread the word about World Read Aloud Day and the Global Literacy Movement to your friends and followers or host an event in your area to rally around this urgent cause. *Help us reach more than one million participants, joining forces and reading together in honor of this day.*

INNOVATE

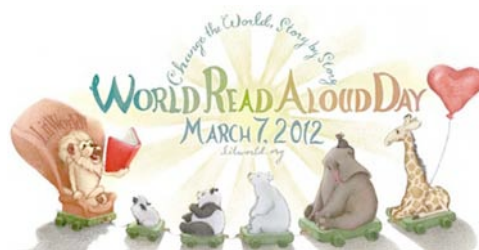
Share World Read Aloud Day with friends across the globe by using video chat and tuning into LitWorld's special live webcasts. When you register for World Read Aloud Day at litworld.org, let us know if you would like us to match you up with a special guest reader!

World Read Aloud Day is an awareness day advocating for literacy as a right that belongs to all people. World Read Aloud Day motivates children, teens, and adults worldwide to celebrate the power of words, especially those words that are shared from one person to another. By raising our voices together on this day, we show the world's children that we support their future: that they have the right to read, to write, and to share their words to change the world. Visit litworld.org to join the story.

Suggested World Read Aloud Day Activities

Be sure to register at litworld.org/worldreadaloudday so we know where and how you will celebrate!

- **Read Aloud with someone on March 7.** Reach out to a group in your local community and set up a time to read aloud or do the WRAD worksheets together. This could be an event with friends and family, or a connection with a school, library, hospital or elder care center.
- **Read Aloud with someone across the world on March 7.** Connect with one of LitWorld's special guest readers over video chat at litworld.org/worldreadalouddaychats, or set up your own video chat with a long-distance friend!
- **Spread the world about the Global Literacy Movement online.** Post about World Read Aloud Day on Facebook, Twitter, your blog, or your website. Find ideas for tweets, status updates and blog posts at litworld.org/worldreadalouddayblog. Change your avatar icon to the WRAD badge on Facebook, Twitter and your blogs.
- **Host a read-a-thon.** Read aloud with a group of friends or set group goals and read independently counting down to March 7 and keep track of your reading minutes. Help us reach 793 million minutes in honor of the 793 million people around the world who cannot read or write.
- **Host a book swap party.** Invite your friends or classmates to bring their favorite books and sell them to one another, any price will do! Contribute your proceeds to LitWorld as a donation to LitWorld's projects and programs at litworld.org/donate.
- **Host a dress-up party.** Dress up as your favorite book character and get together with friends or your class. Try to act like your character all day for extra fun!
- **Join our signature event.** If you'll be near New York City on March 7, stop by the legendary *Books of Wonder* for our all day take-over event with special guest authors and workshops. If you can't join us in person, tune in to the live stream from *Books of Wonder*. Visit litworld.org/worldreadalouddaynyc for details.



Name: _____ Age: _____

Location: _____

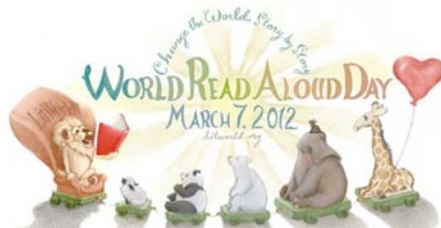
Why We Celebrate World Read Aloud Day

*Worldwide at least 793 million people remain illiterate.
Imagine a world where everyone can read...*

World Read Aloud Day is about taking action to show the world that the right to read and write belongs to all people. World Read Aloud Day motivates children, teens, and adults worldwide to celebrate the power of words, especially those words that are shared from one person to another, and creates a community of readers advocating for every child's right to a safe education and access to books and technology. By raising our voices together on this day we show the world's children that we support their future: that they have the right to read, to write, and to share their words to change the world.

Discussion Questions:

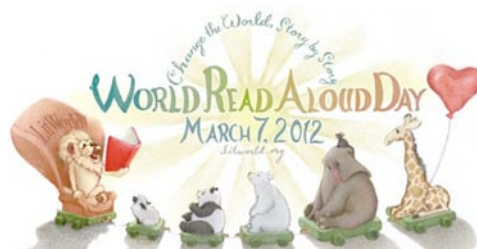
1. Why is it important to read aloud to each other today and everyday?
2. How does it make you feel to know that you are reading aloud with thousands of other people around the world today?
3. What would the world look like if everyone could read?



Global Literacy Statistics

- According to the latest data (2009), 793 million adults – two thirds of them women – lack basic reading and writing skills. Included in this statistic are 127 million youth aged 15-24. (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 thirty minutes a day, compared with less than one-third of the boys. (UNESCO)
- In sub-Saharan Africa, girls have less than a 50% chance of finishing primary school. In some Asian countries, girls also struggle: 41% of girls in Pakistan and 30% in India fail to finish primary school. (results.org)
- A majority of youth in American public schools cannot read or do math at grade level in the 4th, 8th or 12th grades. (“The State of America’s Children 2011,” a report by the Children’s Defense Fund)
- A child born to a mother who can read is 50 percent 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 twenty-five percent more income, and she will produce a smaller, healthier family. (UNESCO)

UNESCO: United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

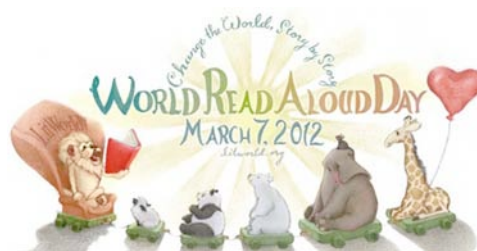


Name: _____ Age: _____

Location: _____

What does World Read Aloud Day look like?
Use the questions below to help guide you as you draw.

- *Who is celebrating World Read Aloud Day?*
- *Where are they participating in this special day?*
- *How are they sharing stories on this day?*

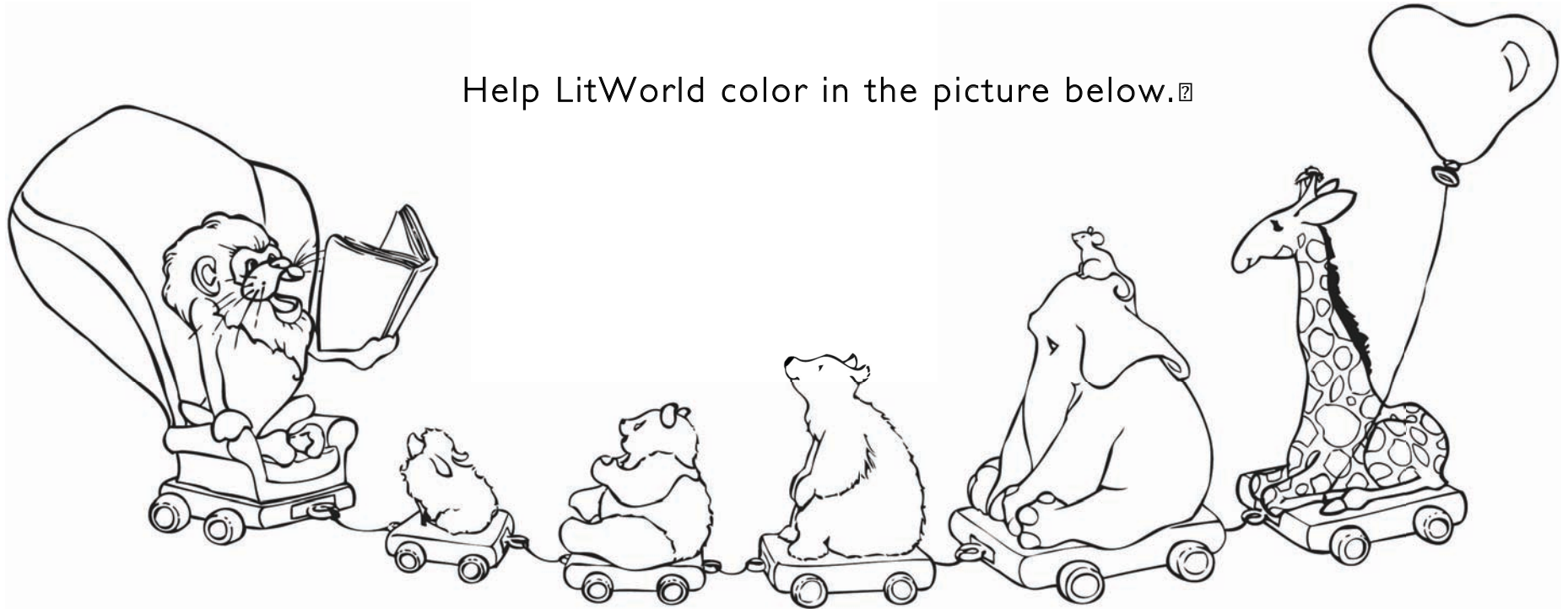


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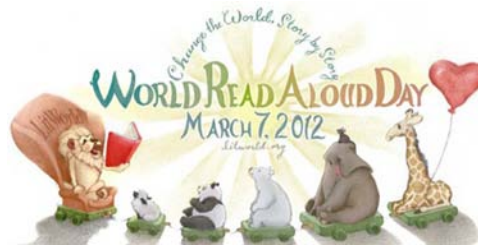
Location: _____



Help LitWorld color in the picture below.



How are the animals participating in World Read Aloud Day?



Name: _____ Age: _____

Location: _____

Read the poem "To You" by Langston Hughes below. As you read, underline the words that stand out to you. When you are finished, complete the discussion questions below.

To You

by Langston Hughes

To sit and dream, to sit and read,
To sit and learn about the world
Outside our world of here and now —
Our problem world —
To dream of vast horizons of the soul
Through dreams made whole,
Unfettered, free — help me!
All you who are dreamers too,
Help me to make our world anew.
I reach out my dreams to you.

Discussion Questions:

1. What words did you underline? Why did you choose these words?

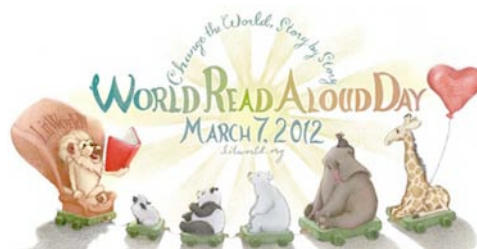
2. Why is dreaming important to the author?

3. Why is dreaming important to you?



About the Author:

James Langston Hughes was born February 1, 1902, in Joplin, Missouri. Hughes is particularly known for his insightful, colorful portrayals of black life in America from the twenties through the sixties.



Name: _____ Age: _____

Location: _____

New Day, New Friends

LitWorld's 7 Strengths

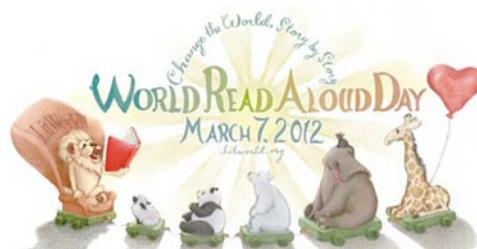
Belonging	Friendship	Confidence	Hope
Curiosity	Kindness	Courage	

1. Choose one of the 7 Strengths that describes you. Which Strength did you choose? Why did you choose it?

2. What is one of the Strengths you admire in your friends? Why?

3. How do you feel when you make a new friend?

4. Draw a picture of a time you have helped a friend.



LitWorld's 7 Strengths Book List

BELONGING

Picture Books

- *Chicken Sunday* by Patricia Polacco
- *Whoever You Are* by Mem Fox

Poetry

- *My People* by Langston Hughes
- *Sweet Corn: Poems*
by James Stevenson

Chapter Books

- *The House on Mango Street (Four Skinny Trees)* by Sandra Cisneros
- *The Running Dream*
by Wendelin Van Draanen

KINDNESS

Picture Books

- *Horton Hears a Who!* by Dr. Seuss
- *14 Cows for America* by Carmen
Agra Deedy

Poetry

- *I Know Why the Caged Bird Sings*
by Maya Angelou
- *The Frog* by Hillaire Belloc

Chapter Books

- *Kira-Kira* by Cynthia Kadohata
- *The Women of Brewster Place*
by Gloria Naylor

COURAGE

Picture Books

- *Planting the Trees of Kenya: The Story of Wangari Maathai*
by Claire Nivola
- *Kids with Courage: True Stories About Young People Making a Difference* by Barbara A. Lewis

Poetry

- *Black Eye Ball* by Steve Micciche
- *Helen Keller* by Langston Hughes

Chapter Books

- *Ender's Game*
by Orson Scott Card
- *Stargirl* by Jerry Spinelli

FRIENDSHIP

Picture Books

- *The Gift of Nothing*
by Patrick McDonnell
- *Today I Will Fly!*, by Mo Willems

Poetry

- *The Glory of Friendship*
by Ralph Waldo Emerson
- *May Our Friendship Last Forever*
by Nicolas Gordon

Chapter Books

- *Charlotte's Web* by E.B. White
- *Paper Towns* by John Green

LitWorld's 7 Strengths Book List

CONFIDENCE

Picture Books

- *Free to Be... You and Me*
by Marlo Thomas and Friends
- *One Hen: How One Small Loan
Made a Big Difference*
by Katie Smith Milway

Poetry

- *The Dream Keeper*
by Langston Hughes
- *The Road Not Taken*
by Robert Frost

Chapter Books

- *Hoot* by Carl Hiaasen
- *The Hunger Games*
by Suzanne Collins

CURIOSITY

Picture Books

- *The Three Questions* by Jon Muth
- *Where the Mountain Meets the
Moon* by Grace Lin

Poetry

- *Reflection* by Shel Silverstein
- *I'm Glad I'm Me* by Phil Bolsta

Chapter Books

- *The Evolution of Calpurnia Tate*
by Jacqueline Kelly
- *Being* by Kevin Brooks

HOPE

Picture Books

- *Henry's Freedom Box*
by Ellen Levine
- *31 Ways to Change the World*
by 4,386 Children

Poetry

- *The Invitation* by Shel Silverstein
- *By Myself* by Eloise Greenfield

Chapter Books

- *Journey Through Heartsongs*
by Matti Stepanek
- *Mare's War* by Tanita S. Davis

LitWorld

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What would the world be like if everyone could read?



Change the World, Story by Story

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY
MARCH 7, 2012

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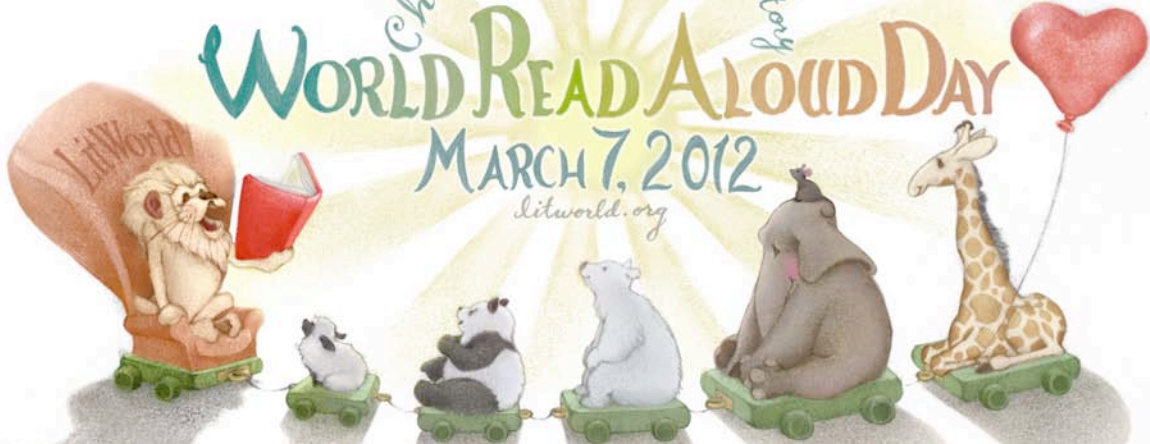
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Change the World, Story by Story

WORLD READ ALOUD DAY

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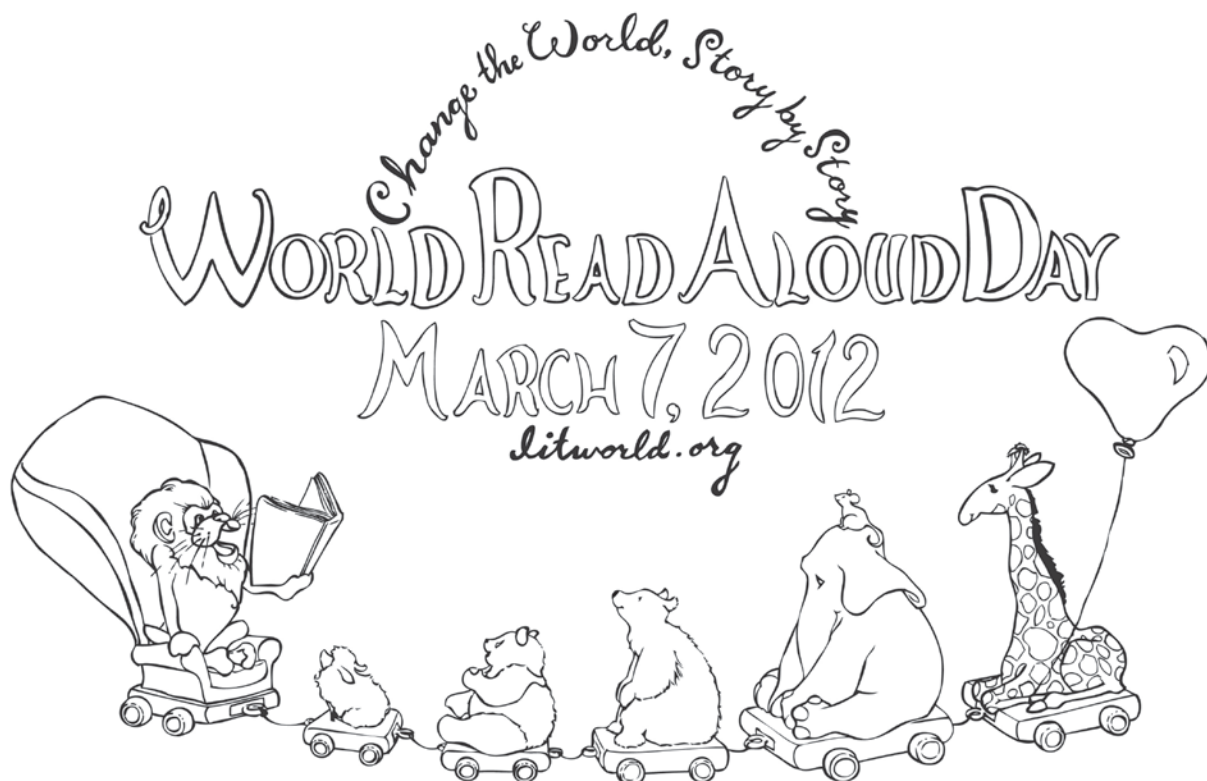
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World Read Aloud Day Certificate

presented to:

On March 7, 2012 you took
action in support of the
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