



# Celebrate Literacy Week, Florida!

January 26-30, 2026

## Sample Activities In SJCS D

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Monday, January 26<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Elementary Activities:</b> Mystery Reader Monday: Books are full of surprises. Guest Author coming to visit K-2 and 3-5 to discuss writing process and share a story Attire: Detective-inspired disguise, camo, or a storybook character Masked Reader Book: “Blue Sky White Stars” by Sarvinder Naberhaus, Class Question: <i>What do the colors red, white, and blue on the flag mean? How is America represented in the pictures?</i> News program – A military parent from the U.S. Army reads a patriotic poem on the news.</p> <p><b>K-8 Activities:</b> ‘Merica Monday: Dress-up wearing red, white, and blue Common Reading Time – 9:00am every day for 5-10 minutes Hungry? Travel to the Teacher’s Lounge for an “Americana” lunch, sponsored by the HCA PTO. Middle School Intensive Reading Buddy Reading with Elementary Classrooms Mentor Texts: <a href="#">Rosie Revere Engineer</a>, <a href="#">Don’t Feed the Bear</a>, The Camping Trip that Changed America, Saving the Liberty Bell, Of Thee I Sing, <a href="#">Fly Guy Presents The White House</a> Activity Ideas: Name the States Challenge, Design a Bookmark</p> <p><b>Middle School Activities:</b> “Chapters of America” Timeline Book Walk Students will rotate through stations representing major “chapters” in American history (Revolutionary Era, Civil Rights Era, Space Race, etc.). At each station: Read a short passage or primary source excerpt; Complete a quick reflection (One “Wow,” one “Why did this happen?”); Stamp a “reader passport”</p> <p><b>High School Activities:</b> Kickoff &amp; Patriotic Reading, Theme: Red for Courage Student News will announce the kickoff to Read, White and Blue: Celebrating 250 Chapters of America. News anchors challenge students to put down their phones and pick up a book. *Student News Trivia – Daily trivia questions about American authors – movie tickets for winners</p>
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Tuesday, January 27<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Elementary Activities:</b> Read, Read &amp; Red Tuesday: Did you know Day? Wear Red and share something fascinating you’ve learned from a book—any book! Submit a written fact from a book for a chance to hear it on the morning news show. . Masked Reader Book: “I Pledge Allegiance” by Pat Mora &amp; Libby Martinez, Class Question: <i>Why do people say the Pledge of Allegiance, and how does it show respect for our country?</i> News program – A military parent from the U.S. Air Force reads a patriotic poem on the news.</p> <p><b>K-8 Activities:</b> Team USA: Show your American pride by dressing in team-inspired gear Middle School Intensive Reading Buddy Reading with Elementary Classrooms Mentor Texts: <a href="#">Salt in His Shoes</a>, <a href="#">She’s Got This</a>, <a href="#">I Promise</a>, <a href="#">The Legend of Rock, Paper, Scissors</a>, Literature Focus: Books about American sports, USA athlete biographies</p> <p><b>Middle School Activities:</b> Read, White &amp; Blue Poetry Jam Write a poem: Blackout poems from famous American speeches; Acrostic poems using; R-E-A-D or L-I-T-E-R-A-C-Y, “I Am America” poems based on identity, diversity, or community</p> <p><b>High Activities:</b> Theme: White for Hope Activity: Voices of Inspiration – Students will research and share powerful phrases from American literature, speeches, or historical documents and display the words/phrases in the media center.</p>

<p><b>Wednesday, January 28<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Elementary:</b> Word Wizard Wednesday: Make words work their magic! Have a short fun/ mock spelling bee in class; use it in a sentence or define it, instead of spelling Attire: shirt/clothing with a school appropriate word or phrase Masked Reader Book: "We the Kids" by David Catrow with class question: <i>What do you think the words "We the People" mean, and why are they important for everyone in America?</i> News program – Parent from the U.S. National Guard reads a patriotic poem on the news.</p> <p><b>K-8:</b> Wild West Wednesday – denim, flannel, cowboy/cowgirl hat Common Reading Time –5-10 minutes, Winter Challenge hot chocolate day Mentor Texts: <a href="#">Armadillo Rodeo</a>, <a href="#">Pecos Bill</a>, <a href="#">Cowpoke Clyde &amp; Dirty Dog</a>, <a href="#">Davy Crockett Life on the Frontier</a>, <a href="#">Fearless Mary</a> Literature Focus: American Folktales, books about the Wild West</p> <p><b>Middle:</b> "Read My Rights!" – Analyzing Civic Texts Using kid-friendly excerpts from the Bill of Rights, preamble, or landmark cases. Students annotate: What rights are protected? Why do they matter? Modern-day examples. Create a "Reader's Constitution" of what literacy should guarantee.</p> <p><b>High:</b> Theme: Blue for Freedom. Students will wear blue for freedom. Student News will celebrate Americans being well-read with a book bracketology competition. Activity: Students will respond to books they prefer in a bracket competition</p>
<p><b>Thursday, January 29<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Elementary:</b> Throwback Thursday: Reading Jogs the Mind Read a Childhood Classic: Teachers read books from their own childhood, Flashback photos of staff with their favorite childhood books (or a pic of them in the grade they're teaching- any elementary for support staff/resource team) Masked Reader Book: "Duck for President" by Doreen Cronin with class question: <i>Why do you think Duck wanted to become President, and how are leaders chosen in America?</i> News program – A military parent from the U.S. Coast Guard reads a patriotic poem on the news.</p> <p><b>K-8:</b> Love Where You Live: Wear school spirit wear. Common Reading Time – 9:00am every day for 5-10 minutes Middle School Intensive Reading Buddy Reading with Elementary Classrooms</p> <p><b>Middle:</b> "America's Next Chapter Breakfast" Our nation's story continues with the students we celebrate today! Breakfast to honor the readers and leaders who show outstanding character, academic effort, and love of literacy.</p> <p><b>High:</b> Theme: Stars to shine bright for America Students will wear clothing with stars to shine brightly for America. Activity: Literature through 250 Chapters Gallery Walk – 10 posters of book covers will be displayed throughout the media center. Students will choose from a list of authors and match the correct author to the correct book cover. Movie theater ticket prizes.</p>
<p><b>Friday, January 30<sup>th</sup></b></p>	<p><b>Elementary:</b> Flashlight Friday: Shine a Light on reading! Cozy up with a flashlight and a teacher-approved cuddle material/attire PJs or Neon colors. Top 3 classes for most Mystery Reader guessed correctly win a popsicle party! Masked Reader Book: "Grace for President" by Kelly DiPucchio Class Question: <i>How did Grace show that anyone can make a difference in an election, and why is voting important in our country?</i> News program – A U.S. Navy parent reads a patriotic poem on the news.</p> <p><b>K-8:</b> Fireworks, Friendship and Friday! – bright colors, stars, sparkles, glitter Bring a flashlight to school to read in the dark. Common Reading Time for 5-10 minutes Middle School Intensive Reading Buddy Reading with Elementary Classrooms Mentor Texts: <a href="#">Dr. Seuss</a>, <a href="#">Ryan T. Higgins</a>, <a href="#">Jory John</a> Literature Focus: Favorite American authors that make us sparkle &amp; shine! Activity Ideas: Buddy Reading, <a href="#">Directed Drawing Kid w/Sparklers</a></p> <p><b>Middle:</b> Read, White &amp; Blue Edition" Everyone pauses for 15-20 minutes of silent reading. Wear red, white, and blue. Teachers share "What I'm reading today." Patriotic participation prizes.</p> <p><b>High:</b> Theme: Patriotic Read, White and Blue Celebration. Students will wear red, white, and blue to celebrate 250 chapters of America. Activity: Collect 250 Books - Students will bring in new or gently used children's book to donate to a local non-profit, Deaf Kids Can. The English teacher with the most books collected will win a \$25 gift card to Barnes and Noble.</p>