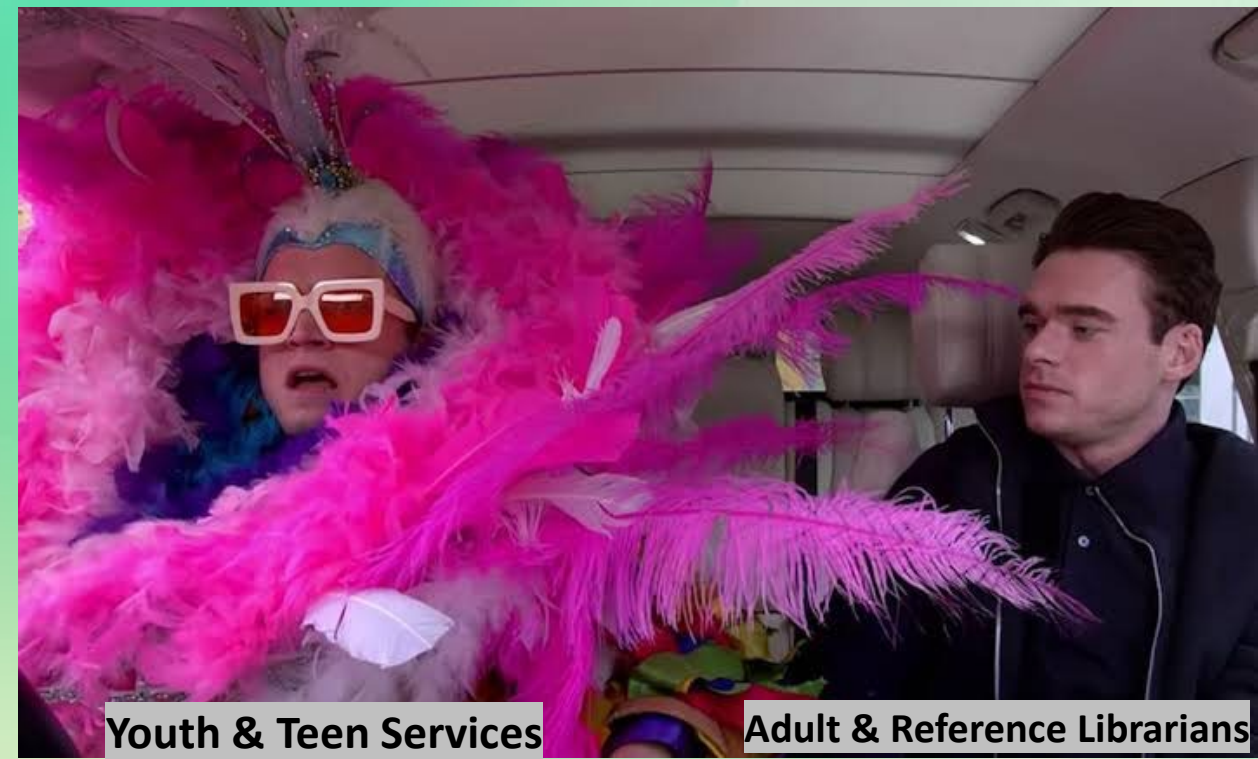


Fun for All Ages: Reader's Advisory Wins in Youth & Teen Services



Megan Guderian
Alexis Skidmore
Scottsdale Public Library

Today We Will:



1. Share our most successful methods for Reader's Advisory services at Scottsdale Public Library and how you too can easily implement them.

Including:

- Discuss “What’s Great”
 - Discuss “Opportunities for Improvement”
 - Share Metrics and Data
 - Give samples of our graphics and templates.
2. Technology and Reader's Advisory. What is “Yay!” and what is “Yikes!” how we use them at SPLS.
 3. Super fun book nerd trivia with **CANDY!**

TRIVIA!



Stonehead McGurney
and Sir Harry the Muse
are owls in what
colorfully-named
fantasy novel series by
Brian Jacques?

Bookmates & Bookmates Jr.

Library Staff as personal shoppers!
Getting the right books to the right readers.



BookMates

BookMates and BookMates Jr. Looking for a new read, but don't know where to start? Let us pick out some library items for you based on your interests! Try our new 'BookMates' program! Available for all ages!

How it works:

Resource for ALL ages.

1. Patrons fill out a google form which goes to a group "inbox" for processing.
2. Staff fill requests as they are able.
3. Items are placed on hold thru our regular process.
4. Patrons come and pick up their reads!



BookMates

BookMates is a service for our patrons who would like reading recommendations for adult and teen books. Simply fill out the form to describe your reading interests and what kind of book you are looking for and one of our talented matchmakers will set you up with some reading suggestions!

Here's how it works:

- Tell us a little about yourself and what you would love to read about.
- Staff will begin looking for your perfect match.
- You will receive an email within 7 days with a suggestion list curated just for you!
- No library card? No problem! We love matching readers to books and will help you find a great read no matter where you want to get it from. If you'd like to check it out from us and need a card, please visit the [Get a Library Card](#) page to sign up for a free library card.

[Make Your Selections Here](#)



BookMates Jr.

BookMates Jr. is a service for our patrons who would like a surprise selection of children's books, based on a specific topic or theme. Answer a few questions about what you're looking for and we'll select up to 10 books to put on hold for you to pick up at the library, curbside or drive-thru window.

Here's how it works:

- Tell us a little about yourself and what you would love to read about.
- Staff will begin looking for your books. Only physical books (no e-books) are available for this service.
- Staff will aim for the number of books you've requested, but this could change depending on availability of topic or theme.
- Once staff have found books that match your preferences, they will put them on hold for you to pick up.
- You will receive an email/text/phone call (based on your notification preference) within 7 days once the books are ready for you to pick up. You may receive more than one email about books placed on hold through this service. To see what holds were placed, you can log onto [your account](#) online or call the Call Center at 480-312-READ (7323) for more assistance.

[Make Your Selections Here](#)

What's Great About Bookmates

Takes pressure off service points.

At your leisure Reader's Advisory means less pressure and more intentionality.

Provides patrons with leisure service too: it gives them high quality service around their availability.

Opportunities for Improvement

Can be feast or famine.

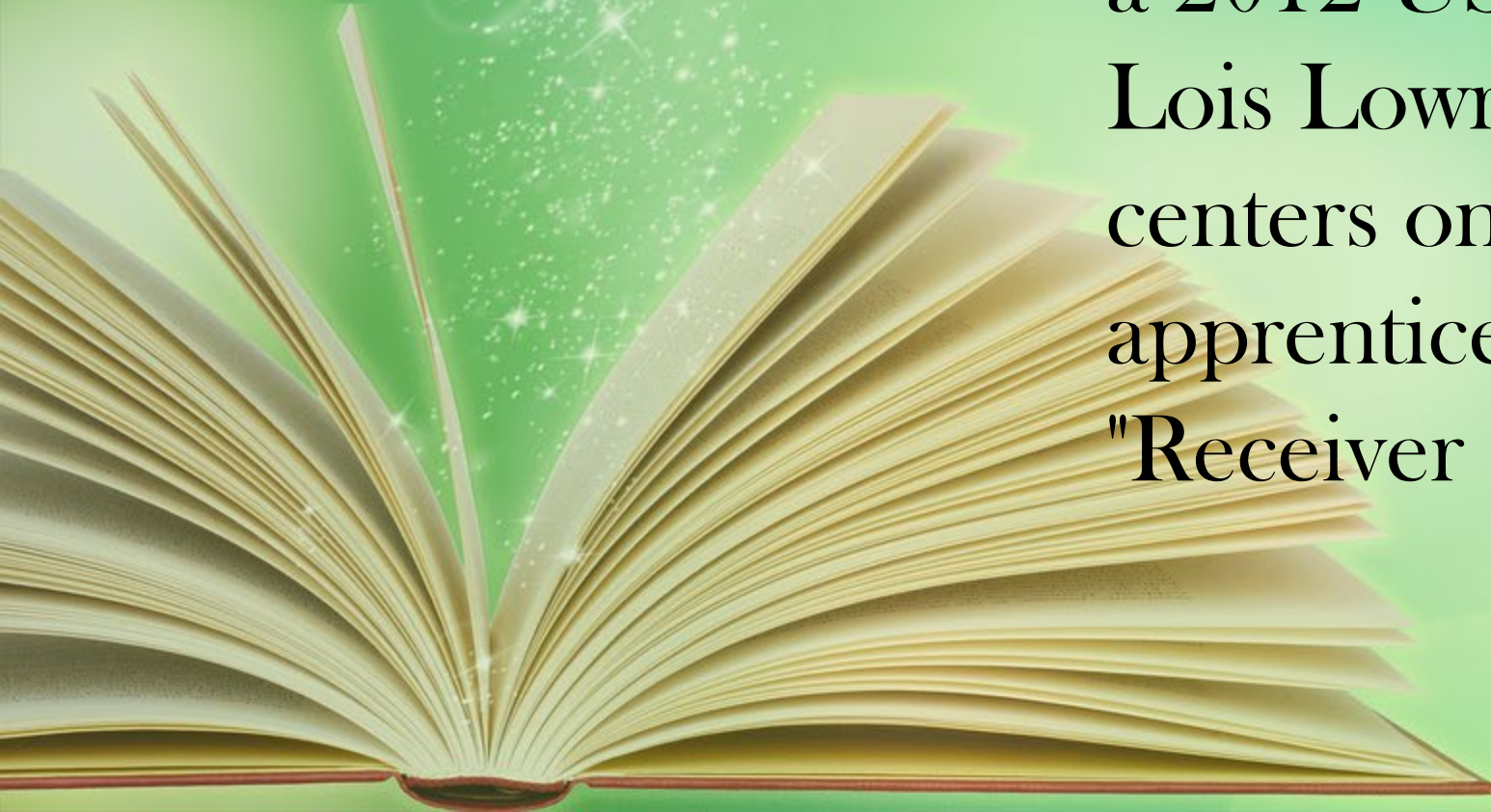
Access is limited. It's an online form that you need access to a device and technology skills to fill out.

It's front loaded on the patron; it requires patrons to know the service and seek it out.



TRIVIA!

The winner of the 1994 Newbery Medal was ranked as the fourth best children's novel of all time by a 2012 US survey. What is this Lois Lowry-penned book which centers on protagonist Jonas's apprenticeship as his community's "Receiver of Memory?"



Grab & Go Book Bundles

Creative book treat stacks that are the perfect "impulse" checkout.



1. Find a favorite theme
2. Grab the whole bundle
3. Place the bundle on the check-out machine*

*Each book will be checked out individually during this process

Pick yours up today!

SCOTTSDALE
PUBLIC LIBRARY

How it works:

1. Library staff creates themed book bundles.
2. We use picture books, non-fiction, graphic novel, middle grade, readers, and a mix.
3. Wrap the bundles in string and add a Grab & Go tag labeling the theme.
4. Patrons find a favorite theme, grab the themed bundle, and checkout the entire bundle.

How it looks in practice:



What's Great About Book Bundles

Convenient for patrons! They love the quick and easy.

Great for including hidden gems including awesome non-fiction reads.

Themed books pulled for storytime or in-person RA can easily be put into a bundle.

Opportunities for Improvement

We wish we had thought to track bundle circulation by topics that circ more than others.

Too many bundles prepared makes the Pull/Hold's List a little cumbersome.

Creating book bundles by theme and AR level can be challenging.



Some Popular Bundle Themes:

Chapter Books:

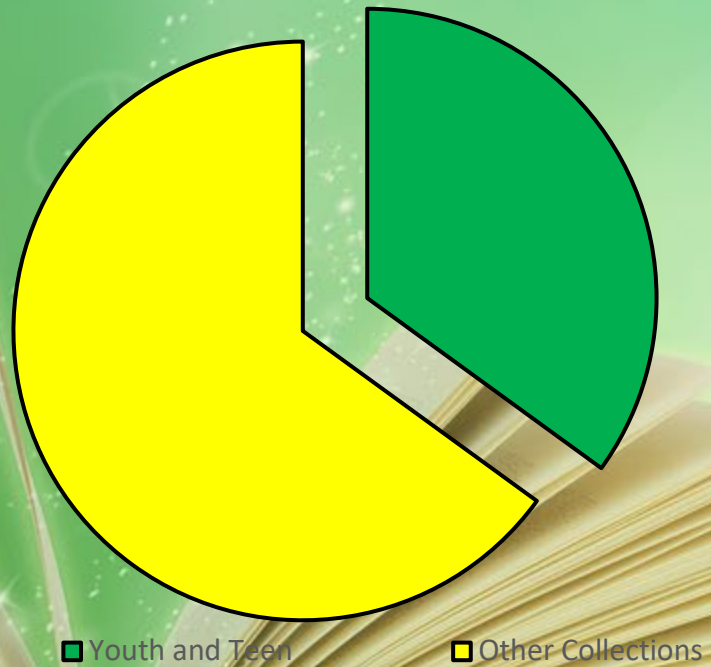
- 1st in a series
- Fantastic Books by Grade "4th Grade Favs" or "5th Grade Magic Reads"
- Friendship
- Far Away Places
- It's a Mystery!
- Must Love *insert any animal*
- Try Not to Laugh!
- Classics
- Staff Favorites
- If you like ... *insert popular title or genre* (we also label these "For fans of...")
- Heritage and History Months and other DEIB themes like disability and anti-bullying.
- Books that build *insert a virtue/skill* (I've done: grit, empathy, kindness, cultural awareness, vocabulary, reading comprehension, curiosity)

Picture Books:

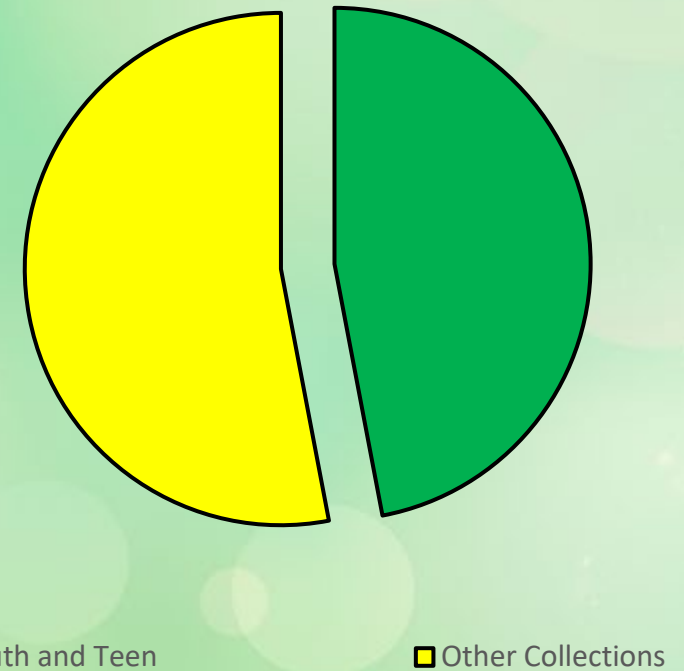
- Learning Focus: ABCs & 123s, Shapes, Colors, Read, Sing, Write, Play, Talk, Vocabulary, Phonics Skills, Word Fun, Narrative Skills...
- Friends (making, being a good, unlikely)
- Any Animal: "Tiger Tales", "Moustasic Reads", "Turtle Power!", "Take it Slow" (sloths, turtles, snails), "Beary Good Books"
- As Seen in Storytime, or sometimes staff picks "Mrs. Megan's Favorites"
- Versus: "Dogs Versus Cats" or "Dragons Versus Unicorns", "Cat Versus Mouse" or "Crocs versus Gators"
- Bibliotherapy Bundles: Emotions, Potty Training, Having a Sibling, Going to School, Manners.
- Nonfic Focus: an example for Picture Book Biographies we label it "Meet Someone New", "Historical Figures", Science Bundle might be labeled "Sun, Moon and Stars!", or "How things work"
- Popular topics: "Things that Go!", "Superheroes!" "Princesses"

Show Us the Data:

Total SPLS Circulation
2018/2019



Total SPLS Circulation 2020/2021



Metrics The Numbers Show the Impact

Increased
Circs
&
Positive
Patron
Feedback!

Show Us the Data:

We continue to circ an average of 165 Grab & Go Bundles a month at the main branch.

During "peak" times we've gone as high as 326 bundles.

Physical Circulation
Increased 11%
2021-2022

SPLS metadata services team specially credited these services as part of this change in their reporting.

We've completed over 1,000 Bookmates Jr requests.

The service started as Bookmates Jr. and then was then **EXPANDED** for all ages.

TRIVIA!

Turtle Princess is the very strict librarian, and the Pagelings are the guardians of the books, in what was a Cartoon Network animated series, and now a graphic novel series?



How are we using technology in
Reader's Advisory
in-the-moment, on the desk?





The Google logo is displayed in its characteristic multi-colored font (blue, red, yellow, green, red) on a white rectangular background.

Google

Yay!

- Quick access
- Spelling doesn't matter
- Learning opportunity

Yikes!

- Quantity over quality
- Buried by the algorithm
- Common titles



+ New Chat

Previous 7 Days

- Collage Crafting Session

Previous 30 Days

- Magic Treehouse-like B
- Short Story Book Club
- Bookify Wrapped: 2023 Editio
- HeartCraft Workshop

Upgrade to Plus

Default (GPT-3.5)

SC Could you recommend books for kids who like the Magic Treehouse series by Mary Pope Osborne?

Certainly! If kids enjoy the Magic Treehouse series by Mary Pope Osborne, they might also enjoy the following books and series that offer similar themes of adventure, history, and magic:

1. **The Magic School Bus series by Joanna Cole:** This series combines science with adventure as Ms. Frizzle and her class go on exciting field trips in a magical school bus.
2. **The Time Warp Trio series by Jon Scieszka:** Follow Joe, Fred, and Sam as they travel through time with a magical book, encountering historical figures and solving problems along the way.
3. **The Secrets of Droon series by Tony Abbott:** This series follows three friends who discover a hidden world called Droon, filled with magic, adventure, and strange creatures.
4. **A to Z Mysteries by Ron Roy:** These books follow a group of young friends who solve mysteries in their town, each book focusing on a different letter of the alphabet.
5. **The Chronicles of Narnia by C.S. Lewis:** This classic series features a magical land, talking animals, and epic adventures that will captivate

Regenerate

Send a message



ChatGPT

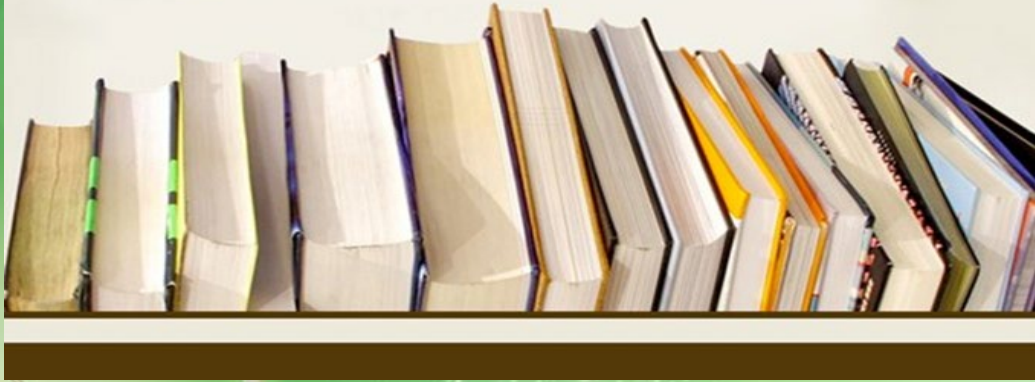
Yay!

- Quick results
- Specific
- Allows you to fine tune results or ask for more.

Yikes!

- The results aren't always correct.
- AI sounds great, but content can be dated.

goodreads



Yay!

- Ingrates with catalog
- Virtual RA that increases interest.
- Showcases staff in a positive way.
- Allows for grouping with shelves.
- Can sticker items with reviews.

Yikes!

- Slow build
- Staff coordination is needed.
- Time intensive: reading, writing, posting, MARC records. . . it's a lot.



TRIVIA!

In what book did Avery stand to inherit a mansion and 46.2 billion dollars if she can stand/survive living in the mansion for a year?





Yay!

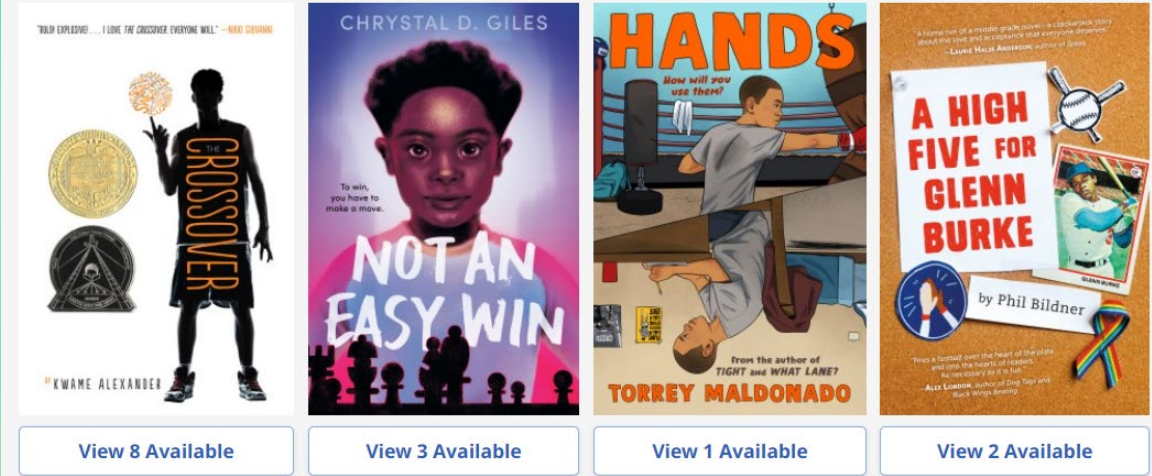
- Similar Titles and Similar Authors integrate in catalog.
- Series order and availability integrated as well.
- Integrations are quick and convenient for patrons and staff.

Yikes!

- An extra database to go into, can be clunky to access.
- Similar Title lists can be dated.
- If the information is integrated incorrectly, you have to contact NoveList to correct.

NoveList

Similar Titles



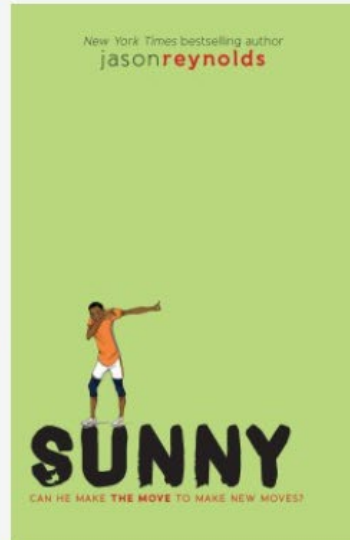
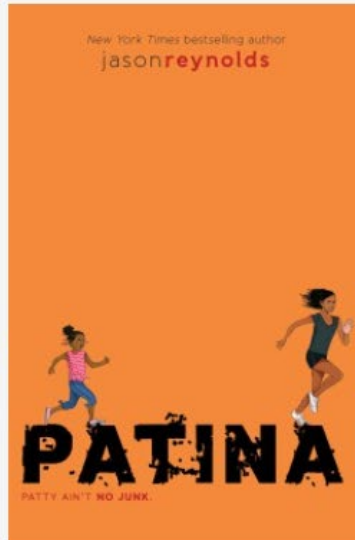
Track (Jason Reynolds)

Book 1

Book 2

Book 3

Book 4



View 2 Available

View 4 Available

View 6 Available

View 6 Available

Similar Authors

Coe Booth

Elizabeth Acevedo

Walter Dean My



Yay!

- Great for knowing specific content.
- Resource for parents that doesn't require library science skills.
- Reviews all media

Yikes!

- Limited # of reviews can be viewed unless \$
- Takes time for new books to be reviewed.
- Interest level is mentioned but not reading level.

Alternatives:

The Literate Mother, NPR Book Concierge, & library curated lists.

TRIVIA!

What series of massively popular books took "Top Prize" as the most commonly banned book by the American Library Association from 2000 to 2009?



Questions?



If you want to...

Contact Us:

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TRIVIA!

There are 13 Pigeon books by Mo Willems. Can you name the first, the most recent, and 5 other Pigeon books?

