

# WORD PLAY

THE ISJL'S LITERACY  
NEWSLETTER



SPRING  
2021



The ISJL has been planning all winter for new opportunities with the Literacy Achievement Bonanza, Our Reading Family, and more! Check out all the ways your family can bring our programs home this spring. With the chill of winter fading behind us, we can look forward to warm days perfect for reading on the front steps, telling stories as we work in the garden, and writing a new chapter for our community's youth.

*Rachel Glazer*  
Community Engagement Program Manager

## Springtime Word Play

I am a bow that can't be tied. What am I?

*Answer: a rainbow!*

## Register for the ISJL's 5th Annual Literacy Achievement Bonanza!

To keep everyone in our LAB community safe, this year's program will look a little different than in years past. Since we can't be in person, we have adapted our most fun LAB activities so that students can do them at home—and it's all free!

**[Click here for a video about how we're packing a whole bonanza into a box.](#)**



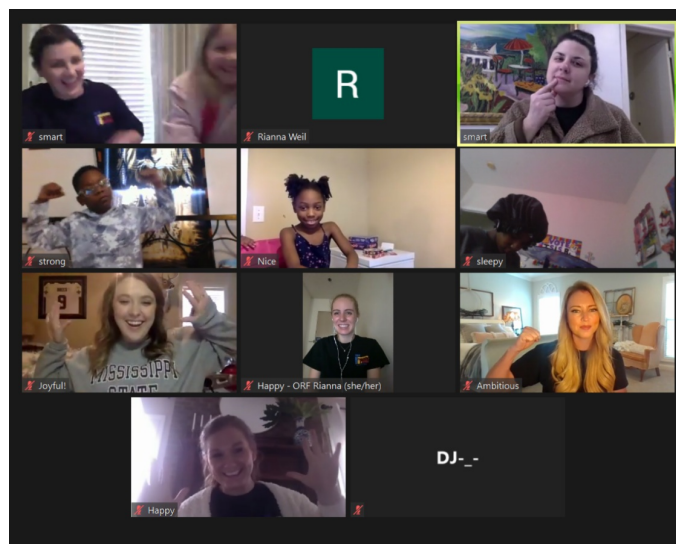
During Spring Break, March 15-19, 2021, the LAB will engage **first- through sixth-grade students** in the Jackson, MS area to reinforce their literacy skills through standard-aligned activities that explore reading, writing, speaking, and listening in fun and creative ways.

We are providing all the materials, books, and snacks your child needs for their own literacy bonanza at home—***for free!***

Open registration ends February 26. After registering through the button below, you will receive more information about materials pick-up and what the week will look like.

[Click here to register for LAB 2021!](#)

## Our Reading Family Virtual with Junior League of Jackson



The Our Reading Family Spring Cohort was a great success. Thanks to our partnership with the Junior League of Jackson, parents, grandparents, kids, and volunteers came together for four fun Saturdays of reading, learning, playing, and growing!



If you're interested in participating in our next cohort of Our Reading Family Virtual or hosting a cohort for your organization, email Rachel at [engagement@isjl.org](mailto:engagement@isjl.org).

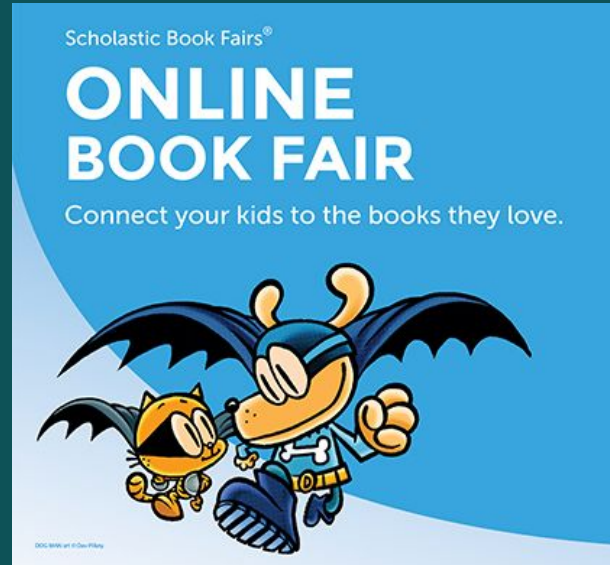
## Online-Only Scholastic Book Fair

Save the Date: February 22 - March 7

You're invited to shop our Scholastic Book Fair online from **February 22-March 7!** All purchases benefit the LAB and connect kids with new books, favorite characters, complete series, and more—helping them become lifelong readers.

Enjoy these special online shopping features:

- Access to over 6,000 products
- Tour the Virtual Fair just like you would at school! [Click here for a tour.](#)
- All orders ship directly to your home
- FREE shipping on book-only orders over \$25



Visit our Book Fair homepage to learn more and get started with online shopping: [www.scholastic.com/bf/lab](http://www.scholastic.com/bf/lab)

## Staff Picks



### Netflix's Bookmarks

*Bookmarks: Celebrating Black Voices* is a live-action collection of twelve five-minute episodes featuring prominent Black celebrities and artists reading children's books from Black authors that highlight the Black experience. The books featured in the series were chosen using a social justice education framework that focused on concepts of identity, respect, justice, and action.



### Grammar Girl Podcast

For a fun and convenient way to learn grammar tips and tricks, listen to the *Grammar Girl* podcast. There are over 800 episodes to help improve your English language skills. With topics ranging from commonly confused words to punctuation rules, you're sure to learn something new every episode.

*Rianna says: "The Grammar Girl podcast is a fantastic literacy resource. Each short*

Rachel says: "This series is so full of color and joy! I love that they have also curated book lists and activities for various age groups. Viewers who are inspired by the stories on the screen can also dive deeper into new books on their own."

segment offers insight into a different part of grammar and the English language. I always listen to a segment to get me in the right mindset before I write."

More resources on the ISJL's Literacy Community Facebook Group

## Show us how it's going!



Send us photos, videos, or a couple of sentences about how your family has had fun with literacy this month! We would love to see your faces, read your writing, and share your creativity in our next newsletter!

For more information contact us at 601.362.6357 or [engagement@isjl.org](mailto:engagement@isjl.org).

LAB and Our Reading Family are programs of the ISJL.

**THIS IS ISJL:** [www.isjl.org](http://www.isjl.org)

**Call Us:** [601-362-6357](tel:601-362-6357)

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