



Margaret Fuller was a journalist, editor, critic, women's rights advocate, and the first full-time American female book reviewer. She is famous for saying, "Today a reader, tomorrow a leader." Every child has the potential to change the world. Greta Thunberg, at age 16, just shook the world as a climate activist by speaking to the United Nations and organizing worldwide marches. Kristen Rhodes from Canton, MS, at age 12, just scored a 27 on the ACT. Through literacy, young people can lift up their voices. Thank you for helping to empower our young people and raise up tomorrow's leaders.

Dave Miller
Director of Community Engagement



Winter Word Play

Why did the student throw her textbook onto thin ice?

Answer: She wanted to make a breakthrough!

Spotlight on Our Reading Family



Over the past month, a cohort of ten families have congregated each Saturday at the Medgar Evers Library for four hours of reading, learning, playing, and growing together. With only two weekends left, the group still has so many engaging, standard-aligned activities to do! The parents have thought of countless creative ways to adapt these activities for their kids at home.



Hosted by the Junior League of Jackson, this cohort is the first of three for this school year. For more information or to see if there is an upcoming cohort near year, contact engagement@isjl.org.

Stay in the loop via the ISJL Literacy Community Facebook group!

8 Tips for Parents to Help Your Child Prepare for High Stakes Tests

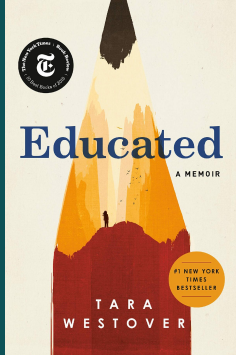


"No matter what your personal feelings on high-stakes testing are, there is no escaping the reality that these assessments will be an important part of your child's academic experience. And, every parent wants to see their student experience success in the classroom. So, what's the best way to help your child prepare for high-stakes tests—and keep a healthy mindset while doing so? Here's eight simple tips for parents to help your child perform his or her best on testing days."

[Click here to read more.](#)

Staff Picks

Each quarter, our staff members highlight their favorite reads and listens. Literacy doesn't just happen in the words on a page: it can be auditory, visual, and interactive, too. Many of these picks are great for students and family members to enjoy together!



As the GRAMMY® Award-winning **Okee Dokee Brothers**, Joe Mailander and Justin Lansing record and perform family Americana folk music with a goal to inspire children and their parents to step outside, get creative, and gain greater respect for the natural world, their communities and themselves.

*Rachel says: I've learned that it can be challenging to find music that both my nephews and I enjoy! These guys have succeeded in making meaningful music with a good message and toe-tapping tunes! I especially enjoy their newest album, **Winterland**, which explores the wonders and beauty of winter.*

Educated is a tale of fierce family loyalty and of the grief that comes with severing the closest of ties. Westover has crafted a universal coming-of-age story that gets to the heart of what an education is and what it offers: the perspective to see one's life through new eyes and the will to change it.

Ava says: I read this book last month and could not put it down. Westover is an engaging writer who speaks from the heart. She forces the reader to look at their own education and acknowledge how it has impacted their lives. I cannot recommend it more for parents to read!

We Need Diverse Books strives to create a world in which all children can see themselves in the pages of a book. To reach this goal, they've created programs to celebrate diverse books, to mentor diverse writers and illustrators, to support diverse publishing professionals, and to provide books to classrooms nationwide.

Ava says: I heard about this website at the Mississippi Book Festival in August and I have been hooked ever since. There are so many resources including where to find books from different cultures and backgrounds, as well as information on grants and programs.

For more information contact us at 601.362.6357 or engagement@isjl.org.

LAB and Our Reading Family are programs of the ISJL.

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