

Reading
Is Fundamental

INCORPORATING LITERACY CENTRAL INTO A RIF PROGRAM

A guide to specific ways that RIF program participants can leverage Literacy Central into book celebration events, in the classroom, and at home.



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Have a question, want to discuss an idea, or need additional information? Please contact us at literacynetwork@RIF.org.

INTRODUCTION



Literacy Central is RIF's free digital site that pairs activities, games, reading passages, videos, and other resources with classic and popular children's books. These are the same books that RIF makes available for sites implementing RIF's Books for Ownership (BFO) or Read for Success (RFS) programs, making Literacy Central a key element in extending literacy support throughout your BFO implementation.

This guide provides specific ways that participants can leverage this free tool during book celebration events, in the classroom, and to share with parents to use at home.

Section 1 reviews the content and tools available on Literacy Central. Section 2 provides suggested activities to incorporate into RIF program implementations.

Have a question, want to discuss an idea, or need additional information? Please contact us at literacynetwork@RIF.org.

SECTION 1:

LITERACY CENTRAL

CONTENT AND TOOLS

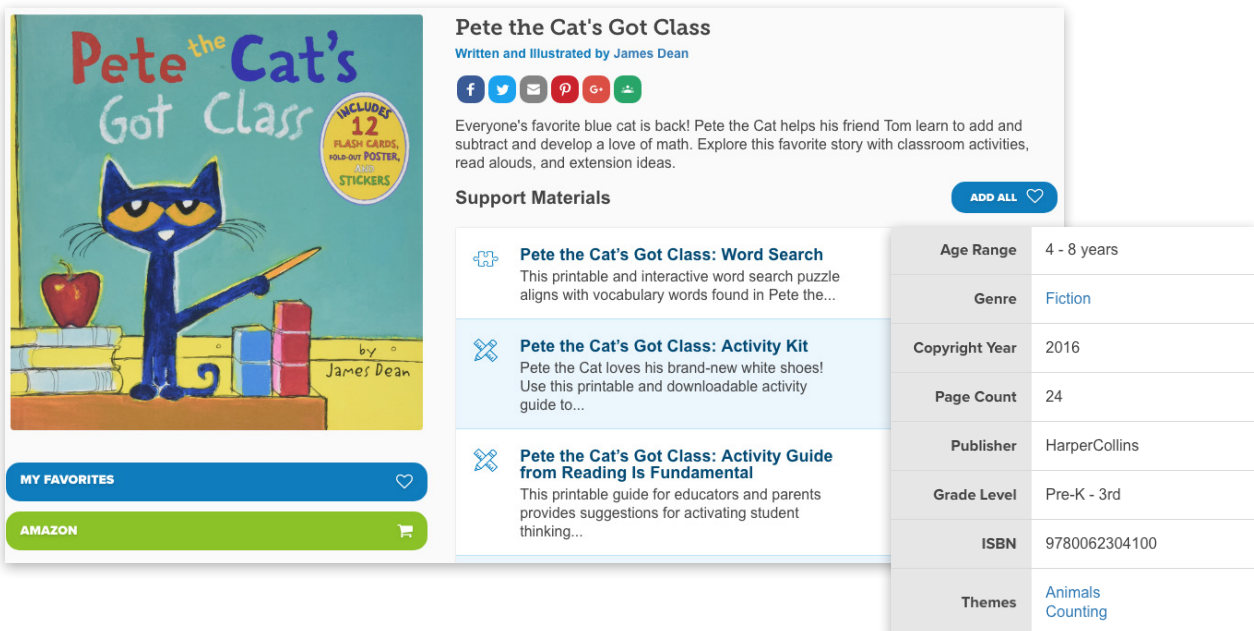
Literacy Central is a digital site that has thousands of free resources. The value it brings to the BFO and RFS programs is that the books that are distributed through the programs are supported on Literacy Central.

In this section, you'll get to know the various features and functions of Literacy Central. For convenience, we recommend you identify books that you plan to distribute and review the associated resources for those books available on Literacy Central.

Book Resource Pages

The heart of Literacy Central is the catalog of books we support with supplemental educational resources. Book resource pages are the centerpiece, providing metadata about each book, along with support materials. Each book resource page includes metadata such as author, illustrator, publisher, Lexile level, publication date, and other key data.

Book Resource pages also include a variety of related support materials including lesson plans, puzzles, videos, and more. Next, we'll take a closer look at Literacy Central's support materials that can be found on the book resource pages.



Pete the Cat's Got Class
Written and Illustrated by James Dean

Everyone's favorite blue cat is back! Pete the Cat helps his friend Tom learn to add and subtract and develop a love of math. Explore this favorite story with classroom activities, read alouds, and extension ideas.

Support Materials [ADD ALL](#)

- Pete the Cat's Got Class: Word Search**
This printable and interactive word search puzzle aligns with vocabulary words found in Pete the...
- Pete the Cat's Got Class: Activity Kit**
Pete the Cat loves his brand-new white shoes! Use this printable and downloadable activity guide to...
- Pete the Cat's Got Class: Activity Guide from Reading Is Fundamental**
This printable guide for educators and parents provides suggestions for activating student thinking...

Age Range	4 - 8 years
Genre	Fiction
Copyright Year	2016
Page Count	24
Publisher	HarperCollins
Grade Level	Pre-K - 3rd
ISBN	9780062304100
Themes	Animals Counting

MY FAVORITES [+](#)

AMAZON [+](#)

Support Materials

Each book resource page provides a list of related support materials. Each support material links to the related asset which may include reading passages, puzzles, videos, or other resource types.

Puzzle Creator

Literacy Central's Puzzle Creator enables the creation of custom word games for readers of all levels. These puzzles are a fun and engaging way to encourage vocabulary and site word skills. Three types of puzzles are available: Word Search, Criss Cross, and Memory Games. Puzzles are easy to create and are stored in your Literacy Central account, which you can access with your unique username and password – just sign in and you will see all the puzzles you have created under the My Puzzles section on the Puzzle Creator page. These puzzles can be played interactively online or they can be printed and distributed at book celebration events, in the classroom, or sent home for homework or additional support for children to complete with their parents.

For an overview video on how Puzzle Creator works, [click here](#) or visit the [Puzzle Creator](#) to get started.

The screenshot shows a word search puzzle interface. At the top left is a magnifying glass icon. The title is "Pete the Cat's Got Class: Word Search". Below the title is a description: "This printable and interactive word search puzzle aligns with vocabulary words found in Pete the Cat's Got Class. Find and circle words across, down, and diagonally." To the right of the title are buttons for "PRINT", "PDF", "SHARE", and "BACK". Below these are social media icons for Facebook, Twitter, Email, Pinterest, and Print. The main area is divided into two sections: a word search grid on the left and a "WORD BANK" on the right. The word search grid contains the following letters:

```

I R V D G J K W S G C M
M W E Q T D D R F U O C
S S W T U C T R B J S R
P P U K F I L Y I O R H
T M R B N M Z V Y H N U
W A I O T P U R A M B D
B T U N V R R L R A D H
C H O I U E A O K P N S
N O J D K S D C B K U A
C N P L U S D W T L B J
V R M Y T E W K W O E F
B R J P M D I J H V E M
  
```

The "WORD BANK" section contains the following words in blue buttons:

- MATH
- SUBTRACT
- MINUS
- COPY
- IMPRESSED
- ADD
- QUIZ
- PLUS
- PROVE
- PROBLEM

Themed Collections

Literacy Central also contains a number of themed book collections, curated around holidays, special events, or topics. These collections can be found [here](#) and are a great way to incorporate thematic titles into your literacy activities.

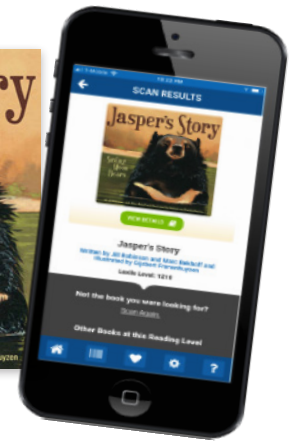
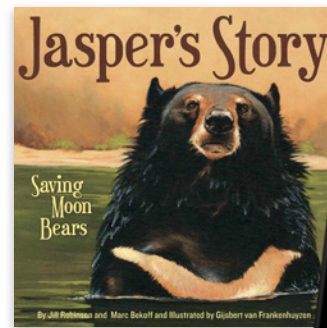
Interactive Calendars

RIF offers an array of interactive literacy calendars, curated based on themes, seasons and holidays. Literacy Central's daily calendars link a calendarized date or event to relevant digital resources and reading activities that will spark the early reader's interest. Each calendar provides seasonal ideas alongside links to free book resources ready to print, download, or play on mobile devices.

View the interactive calendars [here](#).

Mobile Literacy Central App

With this companion app, you can quickly scan a book's barcode and connect to the resources for that book directly on the Literacy Central website. The Literacy Central app is available for both [Apple](#) or [Android](#) devices.



BeeLine Reader

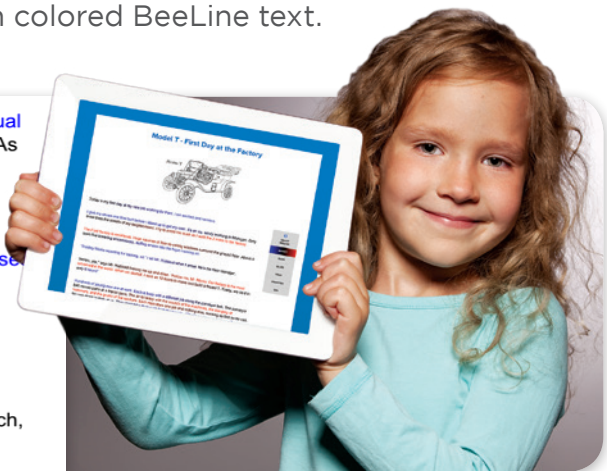
Literacy Central also offers the BeeLine Reader tool. Through RIF's partnership with BeeLine, we offer an innovative technology to improve reading fluency. BeeLine Reader displays text using a subtle color gradient, assisting the visual tracking of lines of text, and facilitating greater fluency and reading comprehension.

In Literacy Central, you'll find a free version of BeeLine Reader enabled in the [HTML Reading Passages](#). Look for the green button to "Launch Web Resource" to view reading passages with colored BeeLine text.

Paul Bunyan is an American legend. Legends often start with an unusual story about an event or person. The story is told over and over again. As time passes, the story gets exaggerated. Storytellers add to the story. Soon it becomes larger than life—a legend.

So how did the legend of Paul Bunyan start? Historians believe it is based on a combination of tales about two real-life men. Both were French-Canadian lumberjacks who lived in the 1800s.

Bon Jean was a French-Canadian hero. He fought in the Papineau Rebellion of 1837. Many people knew and liked Bon Jean. After all, he was a hero. The name Bunyan probably came from Bon Jean. In French, his name is pronounced BOHN-JAWN.



Reading Passage Library

Beyond the thousands of digital, supplemental book resources on Literacy Central is a comprehensive library of leveled reading passages. Leveled reading passages relate in some way to a book's themes, concepts, characters, settings, or subject matter. Each passage's Lexile measurement targets readers at the Beginning of Year (Easy), Middle of Year (Medium), or End of Year (Hard). The passages are meant to be used as independent-level texts that students can read on their own with minimal support.

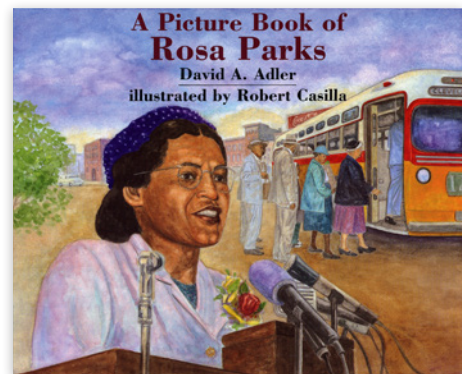
Teachers, parents, and community volunteers can use Lexile scores to determine which level is right for each student or child. Print or download this passage as a supplementary, independent reading activity to help them develop reading fluency. The three stars on each page indicate the level of reading passage: Easy, Medium, or Hard.

This collection offers flexibility for developing motivational activities around specific books to use during book celebration events. To view the collection click [here](#). From the collection page, you can sort by Lexile level and grade to identify a relevant leveled reading passage. Click on any of the checkboxes to narrow the search results for the reading passages.

These reading passages support specific books with reading activities. For example, here is a book on [Rosa Parks](#).

This book is at Lexile level 450 and has a target grade level of 3. There are three associated leveled reading passages offered on Literacy Central at these Lexile levels:

- **450** (meant for use in the Beginning of Year)
- **580** (meant for use in the Middle of the Year)
- **760** (meant for use at the End of the Year)



These short reading passages relate to the book's themes, concepts, characters, settings, or subject matter, and they provide additional context to the supported title. They can be assigned for in-class independent reading, choral reading, or even as a homework assignment. The downloadable PDFs make it easy to use these reading passages. The leveled passages allow you to return to this book throughout the year, each time with a newer, more challenging reading passage.

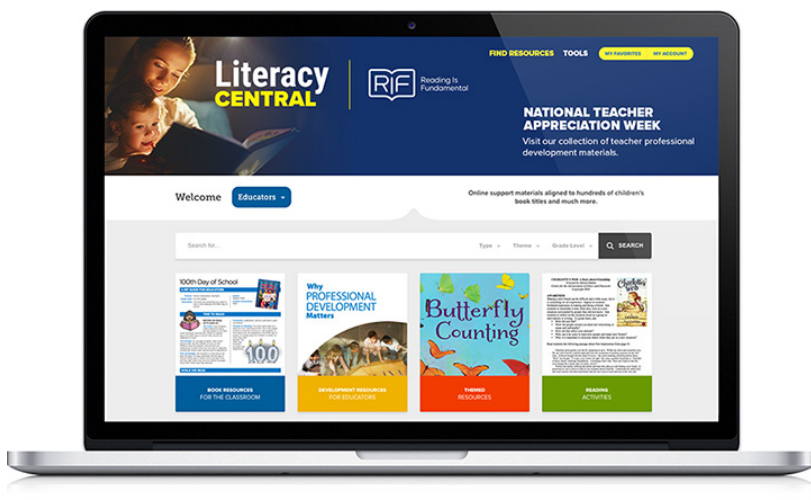
SECTION 2:

INCORPORATE LITERACY CENTRAL INTO YOUR BOOK CELEBRATION EVENTS OR CLASSROOM INSTRUCTION

The book resources and materials found in Literacy Central support a range of the English Language Arts Common Core Standards, specifically those related to reading literature and informational text as well as foundational reading skills.

On the following pages you'll find a selection of relevant, supported Common Core Standards grouped by grade, paired with examples of grade-appropriate, Literacy Central activities that can be incorporated into your book celebration events. The titles listed are meant to serve as examples. While your program may not include these exact titles, the titles you have are supported by Literacy Central. For each of the motivational activities, you will need a computer or table with Internet connection and, preferably, a way to display the screen.

We hope these examples inspire you to explore a wealth of reading resources that Literacy Central makes available to support a continuous culture of literacy.



Kindergarten, First, and Second Grades

Title	Literacy Central-Based Motivational Activities
<p>Biscuit Wants to Play</p>	<p>Prompt children to complete the Sight Word Memory Game for PreK, the Sight Word Memory Game for Kindergarten, and the Fry Sight Words Puzzle. Prompt the reader to pronounce and define each word as they turn each card over.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.1</i></p>
<p>Harry the Dirty Dog and Hey, That's My Monster!</p>	<p>Watch the Harry the Dirty Dog Read Aloud by Betty White or the Hey, That's My Monster Read Aloud by Lily Tomlin read-aloud video from the Story Online collection. Pause at different points in the video and ask the reader to predict what will happen. Once the video is completed, ask the reader questions about key characters and events in the story.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.K.1</i></p>
<p>Raindrops Roll</p>	<p>Use the RIF monthly Activity Calendar (or RIF monthly Activity Calendar in Spanish) to choose a themed book to read for comprehension and discuss. You can also plan arts and crafts activities for your book celebration events with these Literacy Central resources.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.1.4</i></p>
<p>Animalia</p>	<p>Prompt the reader to complete the Animal Coloring Pages. Once the page is complete, practice pronouncing the words with the reader.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.1</i></p>
<p>A Nest is Noisy, Butterfly Counting, and Kali's Story: An Orphaned Polar Bear Rescue</p>	<p>Read each title, then work on pronunciation and definitions with A Nest is Noisy Vocabulary Scaffold, Butterfly Counting Vocabulary Scaffold, or Kali's Story An Orphaned Polar Bear Rescue Vocabulary Scaffold documents. Test spelling with a short quiz.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.1.1</i></p>
<p>Amelia Bedelia's First Day of School</p>	<p>Read Amelia Bedelia's First Day of School, then prompt the reader to complete Amelia Bedelia's First Day of School Criss Cross, Word Search, and Memory Match puzzles.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.2.4</i></p>



Third, Fourth, and Fifth Grades

Title	Literacy Central-Based Motivational Activities
The Secret Garden	<p>Prompt the reader to complete the Fry Sight Words Puzzle. Prompt the reader to pronounce and define (with help, as needed) each word as they turn the card over.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.3.3</i></p>
Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse	<p>Play the Lilly's Purple Plastic Purse read-aloud video from the Story Online collection. Pause at different points in the video and ask the reader to predict what will happen. Once the video is completed, ask the reader questions about key characters and events in the story.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.3.1</i></p>
Jumanji	<p>Use the RIF monthly Activity Calendar (or RIF monthly Activity Calendar in Spanish) to choose a themed book to read for comprehension. You can also plan future book celebration arts and crafts activities with these resources. Ask the reader to choose which activities they would like to do, and base future lessons off of their expressed interests.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.4.4</i></p>
Marching with Aunt Susan	<p>Read <i>Marching with Aunt Susan</i> and host a spelling bee with the keywords listed in the Marching With Aunt Susan Vocabulary Scaffold document.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.4.3</i></p>
The Little Prince	<p>Read <i>The Little Prince</i> and then prompt the reader to complete The Little Prince Criss Cross, Word Search, and Memory Match puzzles.</p> <p><i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RF.5.3</i></p>



Sixth, Seventh, and Eighth Grades

Title	Literacy Central-Based Motivational Activities
Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters	Listen to the Mufaro's Beautiful Daughters read-aloud video from the Story Online collection. Guide the reader in additional research about Africa using the Internet and their local library's catalog. <i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.6.7</i>
Medical Mysteries	Plan monthly book celebration activities based on themes the titles suggested in RIF's interactive calendars. For example, use the RIF monthly Activity Calendar (or RIF monthly Activity Calendar in Spanish) to do an arts and crafts activity highlighting the theme or central idea of each book. Once the month is complete, prompt the reader to develop their own monthly or weekly calendar of reading activities based on their favorite book. <i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.6.2</i>
The Soda Bottle School	Read <i>The Soda Bottle School</i> , then instruct the reader to write a story using keywords from the text as highlighted on The Soda Bottle School Vocabulary Scaffold document. <i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.7.3</i>
Baseball Saved Us	Prompt the reader to complete Baseball Saved Us: Word Search and Baseball Saved Us: Criss Cross . Once they've completed it, prompt the reader to create their own puzzles using the Puzzle Creator to highlight the book's themes and central ideas. <i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.8.2</i>

Ninth, Tenth, Eleventh, and Twelfth Grades

Title	Literacy Central-Based Motivational Activities
The Hobbit	Lead a discussion based on The Hobbit: Discussion Guide . Satisfy Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.9-10.3 by prompting the reader to write their own rhymes or mythical story, which they should read aloud once it's complete. <i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.9-10.10</i>
The Hobbit	Prompt the reader to complete The Hobbit: Criss Cross . Once the reader has completed it, prompt the reader to create their own Criss Cross puzzle for multiple reading levels using the Puzzle Creator, highlighting the book's themes and central ideas. <i>Satisfies Common Core Standard CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RI.9-10.2</i>
Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone	Lead a discussion based on the Harry Potter and the Sorcerer's Stone: Discussion Guide , and prompt the reader to write an alternate ending to the book and to read their alternate ending aloud. <i>Satisfies Common Core Standards CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.RL.11-12.1 and CCSS.ELA-LITERACY.W.11-12.3</i>

Support Materials

RIF has introduced several new features to Literacy Central, and we plan to continue to enhance this free platform for educators, tutors, literacy volunteers, parents, and caregivers. Read on for a preview of additional features which are launching soon.

RIF Reading Log App - *Launching in Fall 2018*

The Reading Log app will enable students, teachers, and parents to keep track of the time they spend reading BFO books and the pages read. The more a student or child reads, the more fun rewards they will earn on the app. These rewards can be exchanged for additional free books and other fun prizes.

Literacy Tracker - *Launching in Fall 2018*

Literacy Tracker will enable teachers and parents to assess their student's or child's reading level, receive recommendations for titles, and monitor their improvement throughout the school year. As a part of your program participation, your students get to choose a book or books to take home. Literacy Tracker can help you determine which featured books are on each student's or child's reading level and monitor when they're ready to move on to the next reading level.

Many teachers have access to assessments once or twice a year, but these scores are not available throughout the school year. This tool will help teachers, volunteers, and parents identify the grade level at which their students are reading in a low-stakes environment that is continuously available for quick checks.

Key features of Literacy Tracker will include:

- Engaging reading challenges
- Easy for students to navigate and indicate challenging words
- Informal assessment
- Dashboard for student progress
- Book list recommendations tied to student interests and reading level
- Rewards for completing challenges and reading level increases

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