

# THE SCHOOL LIBRARY READER ADVISORY GUIDE

## READER ADVISORY

**Matching a reader with the perfect book (reader advisory) helps foster a love for reading and helps build great readers. There are many ways - both passive and active - to guide your young readers to the books they will love!**

- Be visible, approachable, and ready to answer questions.
- Ask questions about your readers' interests.
- Create themed book displays with pictures on the display signs.
- Display books with the covers facing the readers.
- Create bookmarks with ideas for what they could read next and have plenty to give out.
- Write notes on books about why readers should check them out.
- Create bulletin boards with book reviews and let the readers get involved with contributing reviews.
- Post engaging signage for all of your genre locations.
- Book talk with your readers.
- Use social media to promote the books in your library. TikTok, Instagram, Twitter, Facebook, etc. are all possible platforms to engage your readers.
- Create book lists. Some possible examples would include: "If you like that, try this...", "Books that will make you laugh," "These will keep you guessing until the end," etc.
- Try a program such as Your Next 5 Books.
- Allow readers to get involved by placing a star sticker on the spines of books that they would recommend to their peers.

This is just a short list of ideas, but the key is to remember that a successful readers' advisory service "is one in which knowledgeable, nonjudgmental staff help readers with their reading needs." (Saricks and Brown 1997)

Here are some other resources that may be helpful as you consider your reader advisory service:

- Readers' Advisory in the Public Library (third edition 2005) by Joyce Saricks
- Genreflecting (sixth edition 2004) by Diana Tixier Herald
- SDSL's database [Books and Authors](#) for book descriptions and read-alikes.

**And remember to read, read, read, and read some more! Read in your interest area, but more importantly, read in all the areas of interest to your students. Your personal knowledge of books and authors cannot be matched!**

## BOOK TALKING

Book talking is an important part of reader advisory. Check out this presentation that was created for ExCITE! 2021 by T.F. Riggs High School Librarian, Pamela Kringel. <https://youtu.be/Mtv-YJE8ecE>

You can also access the slides [HERE](#).

## VIRTUAL DISPLAYS

Increase your offerings to your students, staff, and parents by creating virtual displays that can be accessed anywhere!

TIE 2021 Poster Session Presentation: <https://sites.google.com/tiegapps.net/sdla21/staying-connected>

Virtual Display Examples:

[https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/18itBNJzxp9pdSqAS\\_B5HmDW-DK-EciZpDYRMXudiFac/present](https://docs.google.com/presentation/d/18itBNJzxp9pdSqAS_B5HmDW-DK-EciZpDYRMXudiFac/present)

## LIBRARY DISPLAYS

If you create rotating monthly displays in your school library, consider some of these ideas:

- [January - Braille Literacy Month](#)
- [February - Library Lovers' Month](#)
- [March - Women's History Month](#)
- [April - National Poetry Month](#)
- [May - National Inventors' Month](#)

Stay tuned for display ideas for September-December!

## READING GUIDES/RESOURCES

Working guides for educators, librarians, school counselors, and other support staff as they seek to develop their literary collections.

- [Native American Books, Authors, and Resources](#)
- [School Counselor Resources](#)
- [Social and Emotional Learning Books and Resources](#)

## BOOK ACCESS

- [Infographic](#)