



PRESENTED BY SOAR Virginia vcee Invest 529

2025-2026 ELEMENTARY READING CHALLENGE

for students in kindergarten through grade 5

Complete the Reading Makes Cents Reading Challenge and you could win one of 14 \$529 contributions to an Invest529 savings account.

- 1. Read five books. At least four of the books must be selections from the Reading Makes Cents reading list on the back of this page. You can read them on your own, read with an adult, watch a video recording of the book, or listen as an adult reads to you.
2. Complete this reading log.
3. Submit it to Invest529 by May 22, 2026.
Email: readingmakescents@commonwealthsavers.com
Mail to: Invest529 ATTN: Reading Makes Cents 9001 Arboretum Parkway North Chesterfield, VA 23236

Fourteen student participants (two from each of the seven VaASL regions) will be randomly selected to win a \$529 higher education savings account from SOAR Virginia and Invest529.

Read official terms and conditions at www.ReadingMakesCents.com

Students in kindergarden through grade 5: Fill in the sections below as you complete the Reading Challenge.

PLEASE PRINT

I read, or had read to me, the following books:

- 1.
2.
3.
4.
5.

My favorite book was because

Student Information

First Name:
Last Name:
School Division:
School: Grade:
Zip Code:

Title I School: Yes No

Parent/Guardian Information (please print legibly)

I, , certify that the child above has completed the Reading Makes Cents Reading Challenge by reading five books, with at least four from the approved list.

Signature:
Phone Number:
Email Address:

For more information about the Reading Makes Cents Reading Challenge, call 1-888-567-0540 email readingmakescents@commonwealthsavers.com or visit www.ReadingMakesCents.com.



# 2025-2026 ELEMENTARY READING LIST



***A Budget for Bingo***  
Tori Filas

***A Bike Like Sergio's***  
Maribeth Bolts

***A Gift from Abuela***  
Cecilia Ruiz

***A Home in the Woods***  
Eliza Wheeler

***A Penny's Worth***  
Kimberly Wilson

***Blizzard***  
John Rocco

***Boy Who Harnessed the Wind, The***  
William Kamkwamba Carmela

***Full of Wishes***  
Matt de la Peña

***Cleo Edison Oliver: Playground Millionaire***  
Sundee Frasier

***Cooler than Lemonade***  
Jerath Harshita

***Dirt Cheap***  
Mark Huffmann

***Dreamers***  
Yuyi Morales

***Earn It!***  
Cinders McLeod

***Ella Earns Her Own Money***  
Lisa Bullard

***Fifty Cents and a Dream: Young Booker T. Washington***  
Jabari Asim

***Fry Bread***  
Kevin Maillard NobleFull

***Full of Beans***  
Jennifer L. Holm

***Give it!***  
Cinders McLeod

***Gold!***  
David Shannon

***Helen's Big World: The Life of Helen Keller***  
Doreen Rappaport

***Hidden Figures: The True Story of Four Black Women and the Space Race***  
Margot Lee Shetterly

***Hurricane***  
John Roccolpe

***Cream Man: How Augustus Jackson Made a Sweet Treat Better***  
Glenda Armand

***Isabel's Car Wash***  
Sheila Bair

***It Began With Lemonade***  
Gideon Sterer

***J.D. and the Great Barber Battle***  
J.Dillard

***John Deere, That's Who***  
Tracy Nelson Maurer

***Josephine and Her Dishwashing Machine: Josephine Cochrane's Bright Invention Makes a Splash***  
Kate Hannigan

***Keeping the City Going***  
Brian Floca

***Last Stop on Market Street***  
Matt de la Peña

***Lemonade in Winter: A Book about Two Kids Counting Money***  
Emily Jenkins

***Lunch Money***  
Andrew Clements

***Most Magnificent Thing (The)***  
Ashley Spires

***One Hen: How One Small Loan Made a Difference***  
Katie Smith Milway

***Pa, Me, and Our Sidewalk Pantry***  
Toni Buzzeo

***Rock, Brock, and the Savings Shock***  
Sheila Bair

***Rosie Revere, Engineer***  
Andrea Beaty

***Save It!***  
Cinders McLeod

***Shark Scam***  
Sheila Bair

***Sloth and Squirrel in a Pickle***  
Cathy Ballou Mealy

***Someone Builds the Dream***  
Lisa Wheeler

***Spend It!***  
Cinders McLeod

***Stef Soto: Taco Queen***  
Jennifer Torres

***The Fabulous Fannie Farmer***  
Emma Bland Smith

***The Kids in Mrs. Z's Class: Emma Mckenna, Full Out***  
Kate Messe

***The Lemonade War***  
Jacqueline Davies

***The Oldest Student: How Mary Walker Learned to Read***  
Rita Lorraine Hubbard

***The Secret Garden of George Washington Carver***  
Gene Barretta

***Tía Isa Wants a Car***  
Meg Medina

***Wants vs. Needs vs. Robots***  
Michael Rex

***Water Day***  
Margarita Engle

***What Do They Do With All That Poo?***  
Jane Kurtz

***Wednesday Wilson Gets Down to Business***  
Bree Glbraith

***What is Given from the Heart***  
Patricia C. McKissak

***What Pet Should I Get?***  
Dr. Seuss

***Whoosh!: Lonnie Johnson's Super-Soaking Stream of Inventions***  
Chris Barton

***Wilma's Way Home***  
Doreen Rappaport

Special thanks to the Virginia Association of School Librarians for their valuable input in shaping this program.

SOAR Virginia and Invest529, administered by Commonwealth Savers, helps families save in advance for education at colleges, universities, community colleges, trade schools or technical programs.

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**SOAR Virginia** **VCEE** **Invest 529**

VCEE is a nonprofit organization providing Virginia's K-12 teachers with professional development, quality curriculum and other resources to promote economic and financial education.