



Sunshine State Young Reader's Award Program



The Sunshine State Young Reader's Award (SSYRA) Program is a statewide reading motivation program for students in grades 3-8. The program, cosponsored by the School Library Media Services Office of the Department of Education and the Florida Association for Media in Education (FAME), began in 1983. The purpose of the SSYRA Program is to encourage students to read independently for personal satisfaction, based on interest rather than reading level. Sunshine State books are selected for their wide appeal, literary value, varied genres, curriculum connections, and/or multicultural representation. Students are encouraged to read books that are above, on, and below their tested reading level in order to improve their reading fluency.

SSYRA is our main reading program at Sebastian and all students are encouraged to participate. Students can start reading the Sunshine State titles over the summer and receive their prizes when they come back to school in the fall. Before issuing prizes the Media staff will ask questions about the book to make sure it has been read in its entirety. Sebastian Students will receive prizes for reading 2, 5, 10, and 15 of the Sunshine State books. The books are available in our library, public libraries, and most book stores. Every student who reads 10 of this year's Sunshine State books will be invited to participate in the Sebastian Middle School Battle of the Books competition. At the Battle of the Books students will answer questions relating to the titles. The students with the highest scores will become our SMS Battle of the Books team and will represent the school at upcoming competitions.

Sunshine State Young Reader's Award Books Grades 6-8 2017-2018

- Courage for Beginners by Karen Harrington
- Framed! by James Ponti
- The Girl in the Well is Me by Karen Rivers
- The Girl Who Drank the Moon by Kelly Barnhill
- How to (Almost) Ruin Your Summer by T. Souders
- It Ain't So Awful, Falafel by Firoozeh Dumas
- The Mark of the Dragonfly by Jaleigh Johnson
- Moving Target by Christina Diaz Gonzalez
- The Nerdy Dozen by Jeff Miller
- The Nest by Kenneth Oppel
- Omega City by Diana Peterfreund
- Randoms by David Liss
- Shadows of Sherwood by Kekla Magoon
- Terror at Bottle Creek by Watt Key
- The War That Saved My Life by Kimberly B. Bradley

SSYRA Prizes at Sebastian

2 BOOKS: Dog Tags!

Students will receive a dog tag for each book they read after two books. At two books they will also receive a chain to hold their dog tags.

3 BOOKS: VOTE!

Students who have read 3 or more SSYRA books are invited to vote for their favorite. Votes are submitted to the state and the winning book receives the Sunshine State Young Reader's Award, one of the only book awards where kids pick the winning book!

5 BOOKS: Goodie Bag!

Goodie bags usually contain books, pencils, erasers, pens, bookmarks and small toys.

10 BOOKS: Battle of the Books events!

Student is invited to all of the Battle of the Books events including: the ice cream sundae/ pizza party, Battle of the Books field trip, meetings and lunch in the Media Center.

15 BOOKS: Media Specialist for the Day!

Student gets to stay in the library all day.