

# Georgia Read More Literacy Program

by Judy Serritella

The Georgia Department of Education has implemented a literacy program aimed at 3rd graders entitled "Georgia Read More". This project encourages children to read, parents to interact with the child, and promote both literacy and libraries.

Georgia Read More is an opportunity for dignitaries and celebrities to read a children's book aloud to a group of students and have the reading taped for future broadcast. The reading will be accessible for viewing by students, parents, and teachers via Georgia Public Broadcasting, Web cast, and on DVDs distributed to Georgia's 1,200 elementary schools. We also take a photograph of the celebrity reader with the book and create a poster that has been distributed to all the public elementary schools in Georgia.

Our readers include:

Jimmy Carter, 39th President of the United States  
Leah Ward-Sears, Chief Justice of the Georgia Supreme Court  
Kathy Cox, State Superintendent of Schools  
Mary Perdue, First Lady of Georgia  
John Smoltz, Atlanta Brave pitcher  
Travis Tritt, Grammy award winning singer  
Bill Elliott, NASCAR Driver  
Carmen Agra Deedy, Storyteller  
Michael P. White, Illustrator  
Dominique Wilkins, Atlanta Hawks  
Keith Brooking, Atlanta Falcons  
Dan Cathy, President and COO of Chick-Fil-A  
Ashley Bryan, Author  
Chuck Leavell, Musician, Author, Conservationist  
Danny Schnitzlein, Author  
Fred Newman, Actor, composer, and sound effects artist  
Dr. Beherus Sethna, President of the University of West Georgia

The Georgia Department of Education's Georgia Read More project is a literacy initiative in collaboration with the Georgia Technology Authority and Georgia Public Broadcasting. Scholastic Books, Peachtree Publishers, and other publishing companies have provided books and copyright permission for this project.

Literacy is the foundation for success in school and in life. By promoting reading we support literacy development and motivate children by modeling. Additionally, families can engage in the reading process together by watching the program and then discussing the story afterwards. Our goal is to have accompanying lesson plans for each title on <http://www.georgiastandards.org>.

The project is being produced by the Georgia Technology Authority. The Georgia Department of Education is ultimately responsible for the creation, production, and distribution of the program.

We are also including, when possible, a "Meet the Author" segment at the end of the broadcast. These programs are currently being shown the public broadcasting station in Georgia. There are also links on the DOE website for viewing.

[Watch Program Videos](#)  
[GPB Pipeline Article](#)