

OC Read Newsletter



Literacy Fact: Reading is one of the best activities for keeping the brain active and engaged - it is in no way a passive pastime.

WHAT'S INSIDE

- Learner Successes
- OC Read Classes
- Literacy Events
- Reading Exercise
- Book Nook
- Word Game
- ...and more!

VOCABULARY

Click on the [purple](#) words to learn more.

CONTACT US

✉ readoc@occr.ocgov.com

☎ 714-566-3070

Mon - Thurs 10 AM to 7 PM

Fri - Sat 9 AM to 5 PM

The age-old saying, “A picture is worth a thousand words,” [conveys](#) the power of an image to draw us in, communicate meaning, and tell a story—without the presence of words.

Photographs can also get us talking—describing a landscape, sharing a travel memory, identifying family members, and narrating a past event in time—all essential literacy skills in understanding words in the context of the world we live in.

During the month of May, National Photography Month offers a unique platform to engage learners through personal photos featuring family, travel [destinations](#), even pets. You can use these photos to create a writing prompt, build a vocabulary list, tell a story, or discuss feelings and emotions.

The possibilities are endless because as we already know—a picture is worth a thousand words.



Learner Successes

— • —

Camillo launched from OC Read and is moving on to bigger and better things! Best of luck, Camillo, and thank you for your time and effort.

Sungeun wrote not one, but two essays for her Portfolio! Thank you for your hard work, Sungeun!

Congratulations to Donald for reading *The Maltese Falcon*! That book is quite challenging. We hope you feel very proud of your accomplishment.

A huge congratulations to Miller for passing a recent exam! We wish you all the best for whatever comes next in your career.

Nice work, everyone!



TUTOR CLASSES

These classes are open to all OC Read tutors. To register for a class, follow the "To RSVP" instructions below each description.

Tutor Tech Help

For individualized assistance, contact OC Read.

Staff are available by phone or email, Monday through Saturday, during regular library hours.

OC Read staff are always available to help if you have questions about using Zoom or America Learns. Contact our office for individualized assistance with:

- Uploading items to your learner's profile
- Creating a Zoom room
- Using the Whiteboard
- Sharing your screen



Tutoring Tip

Don't let all of the work you do in your sessions go uncounted! Remember, everything you do during tutoring belongs in your monthly report. These details go in the narrative boxes for the goals you mark as set, in progress, met, or dropped. Even if you don't think something quite fits with the goal, that's okay! Write it down anyway.

You and your learner should be setting 1-2 goals at a time. It's okay for a goal to stay as "in progress" from month to month. We'd rather know what you're working on, than see many goals set-met-and-reset with no narrative.

If you're having trouble figuring out which goal to select, check out these examples:

- If your learner wants to read letters from their child's school, use "Communicate effectively with educators".
- If your learner wants to read better, use "Read a more difficult book".

OC Read staff are always available to offer guidance!



Reminders

Reports

Monthly reports open on May 20 and close May 31. Log in to your tutor account at americalearns.net/ocread to complete your report.

Beyond Boundaries Tutoring (BBT)

Monday, May 23 @ 11 AM
Virtual Event
To RSVP, contact OC Read

Reading Material Options

OC Read has a collection of books written for adult learners of various levels! Contact the OC Read office for details.

BBT meetings are your space to share, [collaborate](#), and learn from your fellow tutors.

All tutors are welcome, regardless of if you are meeting, matched, or waitlisted.

Send in your suggestions for May's BBT topic! In March, we covered Goal Setting. We can discuss this topic again, or try something new.





LEARNER CLASSES

These classes are open to all OC Read learners. To register for a class, follow the "To RSVP" instructions below each description.

News For You

Next meeting in June
Virtual Event
To RSVP, contact OC Read

Join OC Read staff to read and discuss current news. Use News For You or Newsela to find a story you would like to share, or read *What is the metaverse?* on Newsela:
<https://newsela.com/read/what-is-the-metaverse/id/2001028223/>

You will need to create a Newsela account to read this story. After you log in, you will be able to raise or lower the difficulty of the story.

If you would like to read a story on News For You, please contact OC Read for the password.

Reminders

Library Events

Sign up for the Author Connection newsletter to see all the exciting events being held at the library. Visit ocpl.org and look for Get Newsletters under Popular Links.

Computers Available

OC Read has laptops, iPads, and Chromebooks available to borrow. Call the OC read office for more information.



CONTACT US

✉ readoc@occr.ocgov.com
☎ 714-566-3070
Mon - Thurs 10 AM to 7 PM
Fri - Sat 9 AM to 5 PM



Writing Prompt

What is something that made you really proud? What happened, and why did it make you proud?



Send in your writing by May 20 for a chance to be featured in next month's newsletter!

Email your work to:
readoc@occr.ocgov.com

Learner Leadership Table

Tuesday, May 17 @ 10:30 AM
Virtual Event
To RSVP, contact OC Read

In this 1-hour Zoom meeting, get to know your fellow learners, share successes, discuss challenges, and become a Learner Leader.

Your ideas can help shape the direction of OC Read adult programming, and pave the way for future adult learners like you.

Think about these questions to prepare for the meeting:

What are you doing in the program, the library, or in your community?

What do you want to do in the program, the library, or the community?

This program is for adult learners only.





LITERACY EVENTS

These classes are open to the public.

To register for a class, follow the "To RSVP" instructions below each description.

Zoom into Storytime: Cooking Through the Alphabet

Thursday, May 19 @ 10:30 AM

Virtual Event

To RSVP, email ocplstorytimes@occr.ocgov.com

Join OC Read staff for a *Cooking Through the Alphabet* Demonstration - *E is for Egg-mazing Sailboats!*

Join us for storytime and stay for a short video on how to make a fun, high-protein snack for your toddler.



Family Literacy



Scribble away!

Scribbling with crayons may seem like just having fun, but it actually contributes to children's ability to write.

Young children go through 4 stages of writing:

- Random Scribbling
- Controlled Scribbling
- Lines and Patterns, and
- Pictures of Objects or People.

In early stages, kids are figuring out that their movements can make marks on the paper. They are also developing muscle control for holding crayons. Later, they start making marks that look more like familiar objects, animals, or people. They learn that the crayon marks they make represent a real thing.

This process helps them develop fine motor skills, [hone](#) the ability to represent one thing with another, and refine the skill to use drawing as self-expression.

Source





Family Literacy Day

Saturday, June 4 @ 11 AM

In-Person Event

No RSVP required

Join the OC Read staff for an exciting day [chock-full](#) of learning and fun! We'll be hosting games, crafts, and more to go along with the Summer Reading theme of camping in the great outdoors. Highlights of the day include:

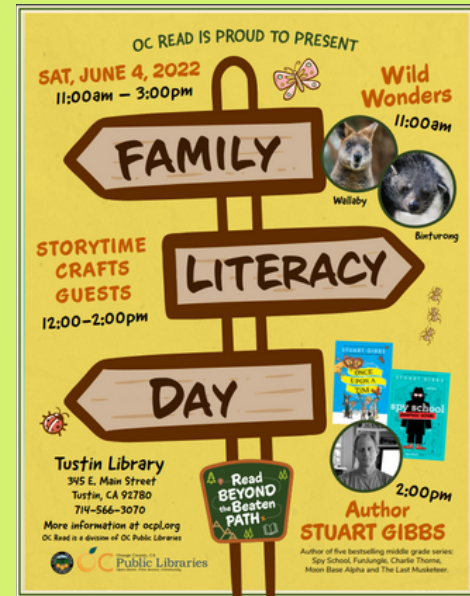
Wild Wonders @ 11 AM

Storytime & Crafts @ 12 PM

Author Stuart Gibbs @ 2 PM

Activities are available for all ages. This event will be held at the Tustin branch, located at 345 E Main St, Tustin, CA 92780.

Check out the flyer!



Click the picture for a larger view.

You can always find literacy events on the OC Read events calendar: ocread.org/events

CONTACT US

✉ readoc@occr.ocgov.com

☎ 714-566-3070

Mon - Thurs 10 AM to 7 PM

Fri - Sat 9 AM to 5 PM

Reading Comprehension

Check out this reading comprehension page!
If you want the answers, just contact OC Read.

An Owl is a Bird

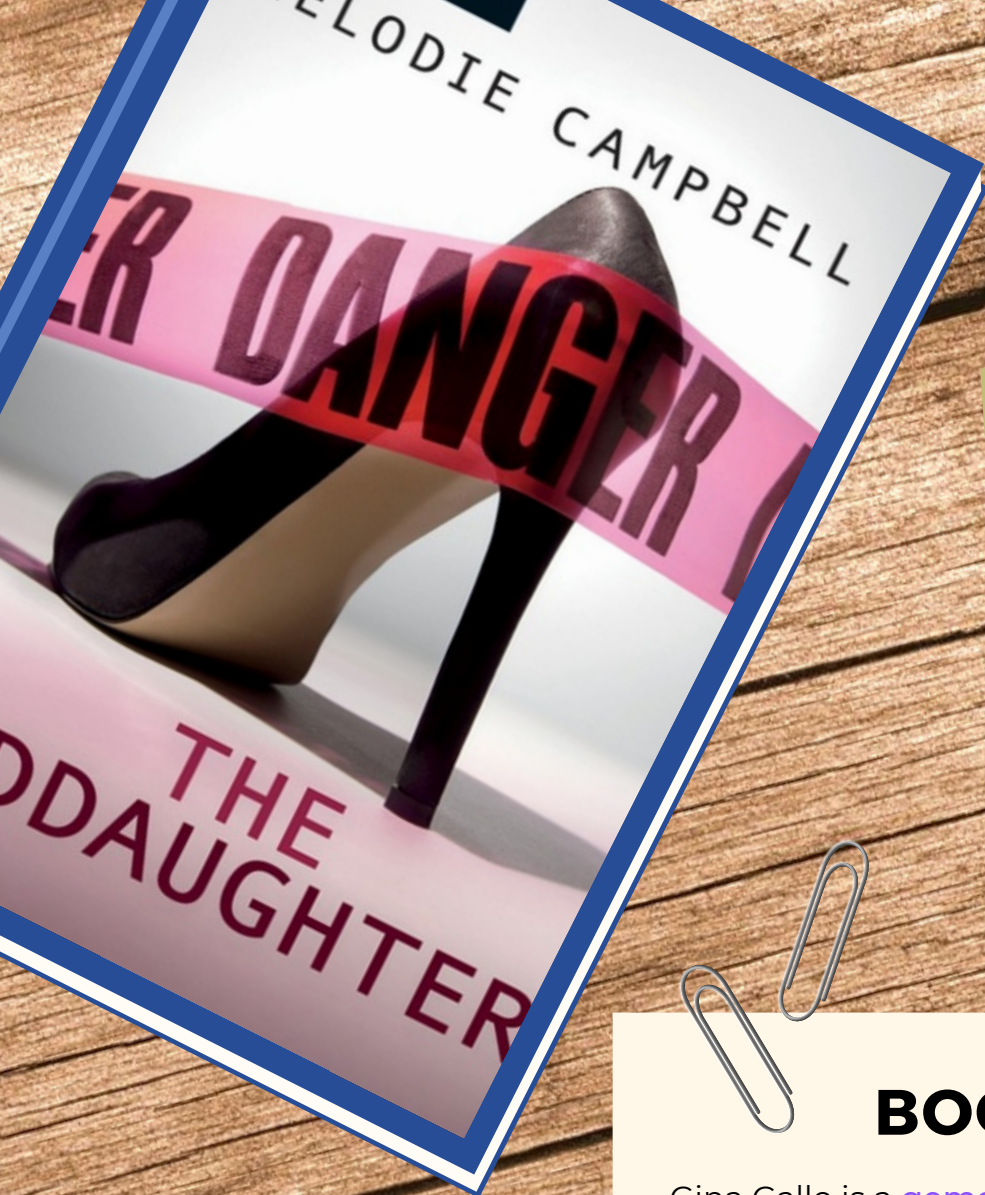
An owl is a kind of bird. It hunts for other animals to eat. It is nocturnal (nok-tur-nul), which means it is awake at night and hunts when it is dark.

Some parts of an owl's body help make it a better predator (pred-uh-ter), or something that hunts for food. An owl has big eyes that help it see well in the dark. An owl's wings have soft feathers that let it fly very quietly.

An owl can also turn its head almost all the way around! An owl cannot turn its eyes like a human can, so it has to turn its whole head. Turning its head helps it see the animals it wants to catch. An owl can grab animals with its sharp claws. These claws help the owl catch its food and defend or keep itself safe from other animals. An owl also has a strong beak that helps it carry and eat its food.

1. What is an owl?
 - a. A bird
 - b. An insect
 - c. A spider
2. What does nocturnal mean?
 - a. It will make your head turn
 - b. It is awake at night
 - c. It hunts in the daytime
3. Why can an owl fly very quietly?
 - a. Owls do not fly quietly
 - b. Its soft feathers make it quiet
 - c. It doesn't call when flying
4. What do you call something that hunts for its food?
 - a. A nocturnal
 - b. A defend
 - c. A predator
5. Why does an owl turn its head so far around?
 - a. It cannot turn its eyes like humans do
 - b. It wants to see where it's been
 - c. As part of the mating dance
6. Why do owls have such sharp claws?
 - a. To catch food
 - b. To defend themselves
 - c. All of the above





Title: The Goddaughter
Author: Melodie Campbell

Text Difficulty: 1
Lexile Measure: 410

[*Click here for Lexile measure chart](#)

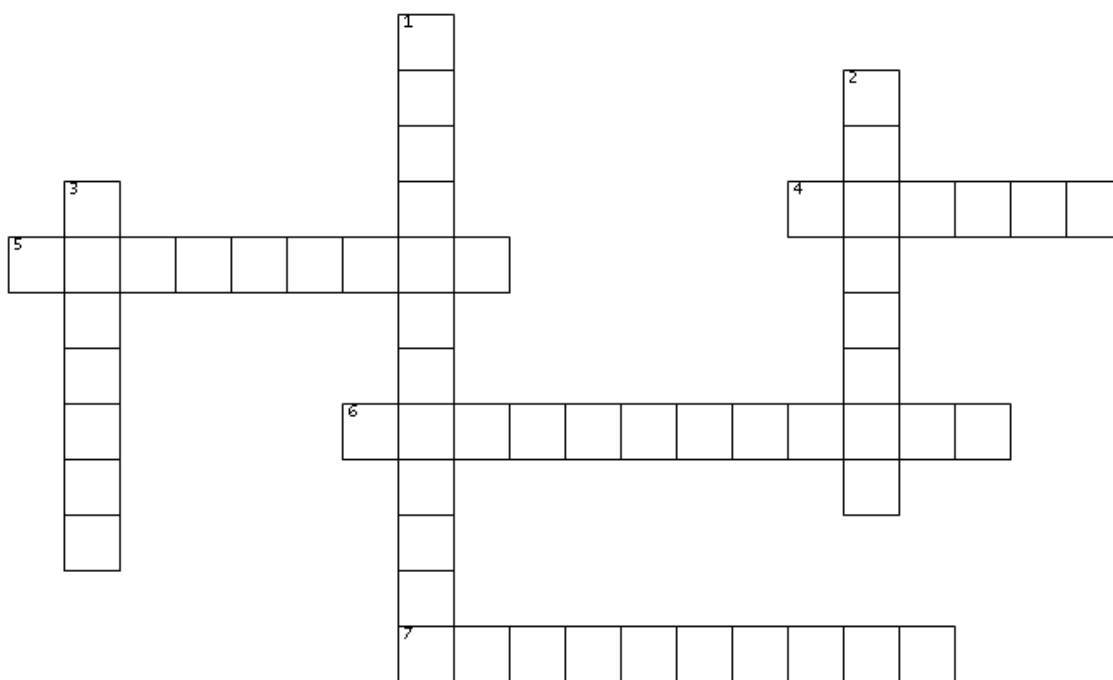
BOOK NOOK

Gina Gallo is a [gemologist](#) who would like nothing better than to run her little jewelry shop. Unfortunately she's also "the Goddaughter," and, as she tells her new friend Pete, "you don't get to choose your relatives." And you can't avoid them when you live in Hamilton and they more or less run the place. When Gina bumps into Pete at the Art Gallery Gala, sparks fly. So do bullets, when her cousin Tony is taken down by rival mobsters from New York. It turns out Tony was carrying a load of hot gems in the heel of his shoe. When Gina is reluctantly recruited to carry the rocks back to Buffalo, the worst happens: they get stolen. Pete and Gina have no choice but to steal them back, even though [philandering](#) politicians, shoe fetishists, and a trio of inept goons stand in their way. It's all in a day's work, when you're the Goddaughter.

This is an ebook. You can find it here:
<https://ocpl.overdrive.com/media/1046264>

[Click here](#)
[for the](#)
[reading guide](#)

Word Game



Hint: All of the words in the puzzle can be found in this newsletter.

Check next month's newsletter for the answer key!

ACROSS

4. protect yourself from attack
5. active at night
6. the places a person travels to
7. someone who studies gems

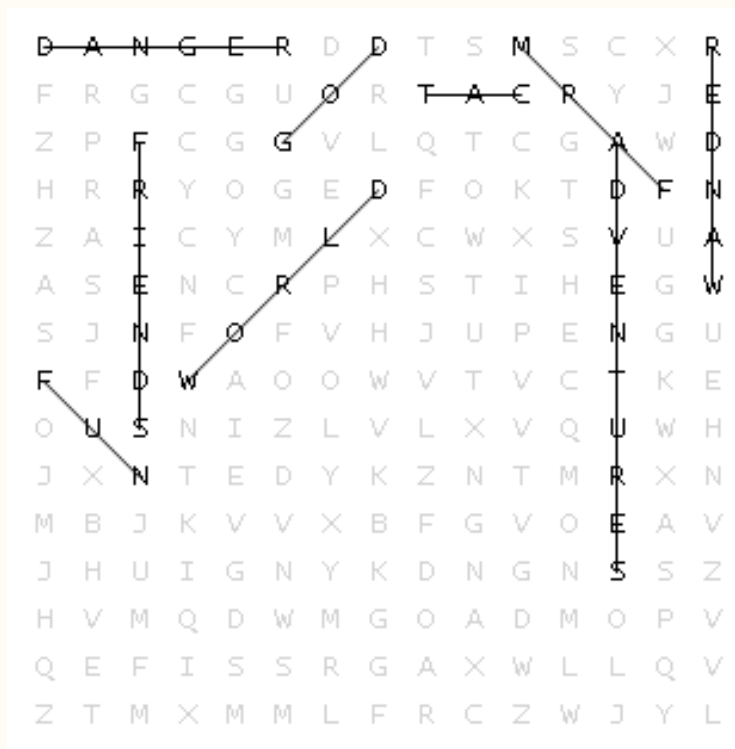
DOWN

1. when a married person has many affairs
2. something that preys on other animals
3. communicates or makes known

April Answer Key

Guess the Movie

The movie was *The Adventures of Milo and Otis*, about a cat and dog who leave their farm and go on an adventure! You can find the DVD in the library [here](#).



adventures
cat
dog
farm
danger

friends
fun
wander
world

Reading Comprehension - Butterflies

1. b. An insect
2. c. They are made of many scales
3. a. Egg, caterpillar, chrysalis, butterfly
4. c. All of the above
5. a. All over
6. b. Nectar

Spotlight: More programs from OC Public Libraries

Career Online High School

Earn your high school diploma by taking classes online during times that are convenient for you. For more information, click on the flyer, or visit ocpl.org/page/career-online-high-school



English Conversation Clubs

Are you learning English as a second (or third, or fourth) language? Join one of OC Public Libraries' many ESL conversation clubs. These clubs are a fun way to meet new people, learn new words, and share your skills. All levels of English speaking ability are encouraged to attend. The Aliso Viejo branch has started a new group! Click on the flyer for more details.



Contact OC Read to find out if there is an English conversation club at a branch near you.