

On behalf of the MD/DE/WV chapter of The Society of Children's Book Writers and Illustrators (SCBWI), I'm excited to present our 2017 Read Local Challenge.

Schools, libraries, homeschool groups, scout troops, and even individual readers are invited to join us in the challenge and enter to win fabulous prizes, like signed copies of our books or free Skype visits from one of our Read Local Challenge authors or illustrators. *We're excited to connect with our readers. Any size group is welcome - even groups of one!*

Here's how the challenge works:

- Encourage the students at your school, group, or library to read as many titles as they can from the list of Read Local Challenge books.
- Keep track of the books read by checking off the boxes on the poster. While we'd love multiple students to read every title, only one entry per book will count toward your group score. The top score is 28/28. (We will employ an honor system in reporting scores.)
- On or before the April 30 deadline, email SCBWI MD/DE/WV PAL Coordinator, Veronica Bartles (mddewv@scbwi.org) with the subject line "Read Local" to report your group's score. *A special prize awaits the first group to complete the challenge, so if you finish early let us know!*

You may download a .pdf of the poster and supplemental challenge materials from our website (<http://mddewv.scbwi.org/read-local/>), where you will also find links to SCBWI profiles for each Read Local Challenge author/illustrator, and all details of the challenge.

In addition to the 10% discount on individual appearance rates that we're offering to any group participating in the Read Local Challenge, joint visits at special rates are also available. If you'd like to set up a special panel for your group, please email Veronica Bartles (mddewv@scbwi.org).

If you have any questions, please contact me.

Thank you,

Veronica Bartles, author of *The Princess and the Frogs*

SCBWI MD/DE/WV Published and Listed Coordinator

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