

# Happy 2025 Friends,

New Year, New Fun—Exciting REACH Updates!

Happy 2025! I'm kicking off the year with exciting updates, starting with a huge shoutout to Englewood Elementary! Their Family Literacy Night was pure magic—so many students pledged to read 20 minutes daily with their new Rescue Reader pals! ❤️ If your school is planning a literacy night, let's make it unforgettable—email me at [donna@donnabook.com](mailto:donna@donnabook.com) to bring a Read Aloud session & Rescue Readers adoption center to your event!



**Big news:** REACH Guides now drop the last week of each month—packed with activities for the month ahead! This January issue is all about Valentine's Day 🍷, featuring Amelia Bedelia's First Valentine and a brand-new printable classroom card pack! Each Moo-La-La-Ti-Da! Valentine includes a QR code for a special read-aloud video—valid through December 2025 and printable as many times as needed!



Way better than candy! 🍷🚫🍬🌟

And speaking of exciting things... **The Bookstore is OPEN!** 🍷 Right now, you can grab the Valentine's Day classroom card pack, and soon, you'll find my books, fun T-shirts for book lovers and Kinventors, and more! As a special thank you, **subscribers get 20% off the Valentines with code LOVE20** at checkout—but hurry, it expires Feb 1!

Thanks for being part of the REACH family—let's make this year full of reading, laughter, and connection! Thanks for being part of the REACH family—let's make this year full of reading, laughter, and connection!

*See you next month!  
Donna B.*

Donna Boock  
REACH Editor & Concierge of Children's Book Fun

## 📧 A Valentine That Lasts Longer Than Candy! 📧

Skip the sugar rush—give a story to cherish!  
My Printable Classroom Valentine Printable Pack features adorable Moo-La-La-Ti-Da! cards with a QR code to a special read-aloud video kids can enjoy again and again—through December 2025!

- Print as many as you need—one price, unlimited fun! ✨
- \$25 Instant Download 📄
- Subscribers save 20% with code **LOVE20!** (Expires Feb 1) 📁

♥ Make this Valentine's Day extra special—grab yours today! ♥

[www.donnabook.com/shop](http://www.donnabook.com/shop)

CLICK HERE TO PURCHASE



# FEBRUARY

## Bookish Days to Celebrate!

National Library Lovers Month

African American Read-In

February 1: Take Your Child to the Library Day

February 1-8: Children's Authors and Illustrators Week (First week of February)

February 5: World Read Aloud Day

February 9: Read in the Bathtub Day

February 9-15: Freelance Writers Appreciation Week (Second week of February)

February 14: International Book-Giving Day | Library Lovers Day | Read to Your Child Day

February 20: Clean Out Your Bookcase Day

February 26: Tell a Fairy Tale Day

## Where can you find Donna in February?

**February 5** - Celebrating World Read Aloud Day virtually with classrooms!

Teachers - If you'd like to arrange a virtual 15-minute Read Aloud session for your classroom for WRAD, please contact me at [donna@donnaboock.com](mailto:donna@donnaboock.com) to get on my calendar while time slots are available.

**February 8** - [Sarasota Reading Council's Mini-Conference](#)

I'll be offering a hands-on workshop all about Gamifying Literacy in the K-12 Classroom: Ready, Set, Play!

- Step 1: Bring your love of literacy & your competitive spirit .
- Step 2: Explore exciting, classroom-ready games like scavenger hunts, escape rooms, and trivia challenges designed to get students of all ages hooked on reading.
- Step 3: Form teams, unlock your creativity, and design your own fun literacy game using everyday items—then present your masterpiece to the group.
- Step 4: Compete for fabulous prizes as we crown the winning teams!
- Walk away with fresh ideas, ready-to-use strategies, and a toolkit to transform reading into your students' favorite activity. Ready to play? Let's turn reading into the ultimate classroom adventure!



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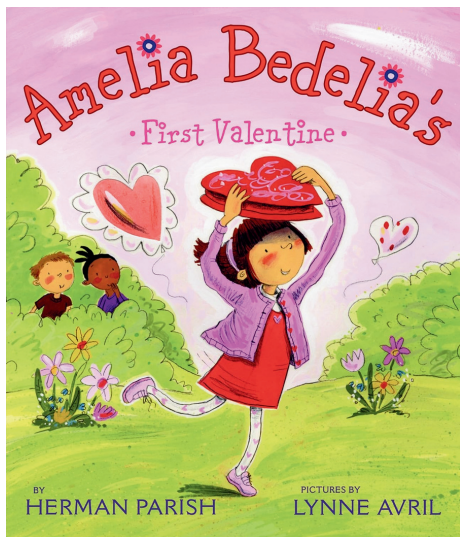
## This Month's Featured Book:

### Amelia Bedelia's First Valentine

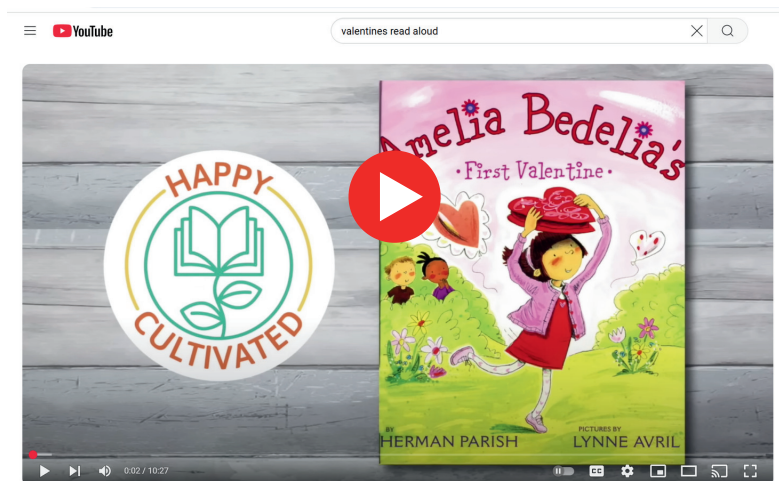
by Herman Parish (Author), Lynne Avril (Illustrator)

The second book in the nationally bestselling series about the childhood of America's favorite literal-minded housekeeper. School is always exciting for Amelia Bedelia, and getting her first Valentine's Day card may be the most exciting surprise of all. But what will she do when she forgets her valentines for her classmates on the bus?

Luckily, Amelia Bedelia is resourceful, and she doesn't break any hearts.



Suggested for ages 3-9



[Click Here](#) to watch a video Read Aloud of *Amelia Bedelia's First Valentine* read by Happy Cultivated on YouTube.

*Pro Tip: Pause the video as needed to us discussion questions and have dialogue.*

## **Amelia Bedelia's First Valentine**

### **Discussion Questions for REACH Partners**

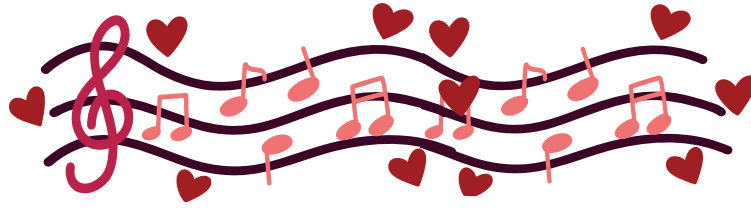
1. If you could give a Valentine to someone special in your life, what would it say, and why?
2. Amelia Bedelia is always trying her best to understand new things. Have you ever learned something new and felt a little confused but kept trying? Tell us about a time when you learned something new or tricky.
3. What are some different ways we can show kindness to people, just like Amelia Bedelia tried to do?
4. What was the funniest moment in the book for you, and why did it make you laugh?
5. If you were to plan the perfect Valentine's Day party, what would it look like? What games or activities would you have for your friends?

### **Discussion Questions for Classroom Teachers & Librarians**

1. How do you think Amelia Bedelia feels when she misunderstands things about Valentine's Day? Can you think of a time when you misunderstood something, and what did you learn from it?
2. What does friendship mean to Amelia Bedelia in the story? How can we show our friends that we care?
3. Amelia Bedelia tries to give the best Valentine's Day cards. Why do you think it's important to give kind words or notes to others? Can you remember a time someone gave you a special card or note?
4. What's your favorite part of Valentine's Day? How do you like to celebrate it with your friends or family?
5. Why do you think Amelia Bedelia was so surprised by all the ways people celebrated Valentine's Day? How do we show love in our own family traditions?



## Let's Sing Together!



### Love is Like a Valentine

(Tune: "Twinkle, Twinkle, Little Star")

Love is like a Valentine,  
Sweet and simple, pure and kind.  
You are in my heart today,  
Sending love in every way.  
Here's a hug, a smile too,  
Sending lots of love to you!

### Love Grows - Sing & Sign

Celebrate Valentine's Day with a heartfelt song and sign language tutorial!  
Watch *Love Grows* and learn how to sign along while spreading love with every word.  
This YouTube link is brought to you by [www.mymissnina.com](http://www.mymissnina.com).

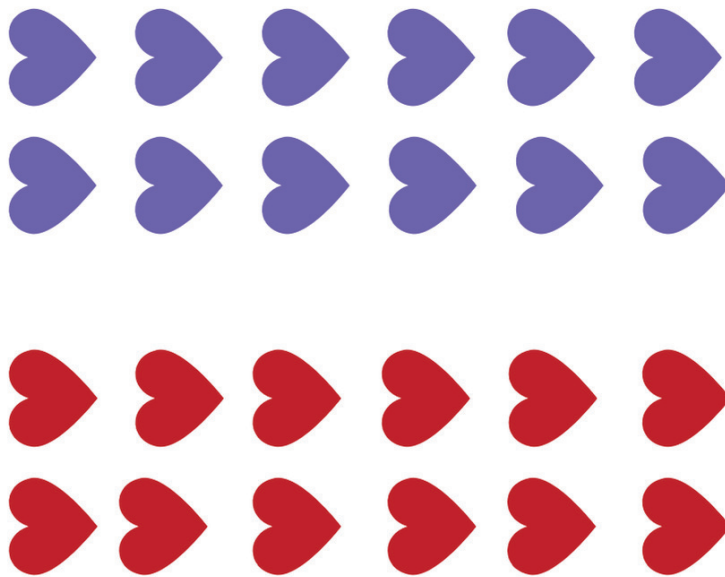
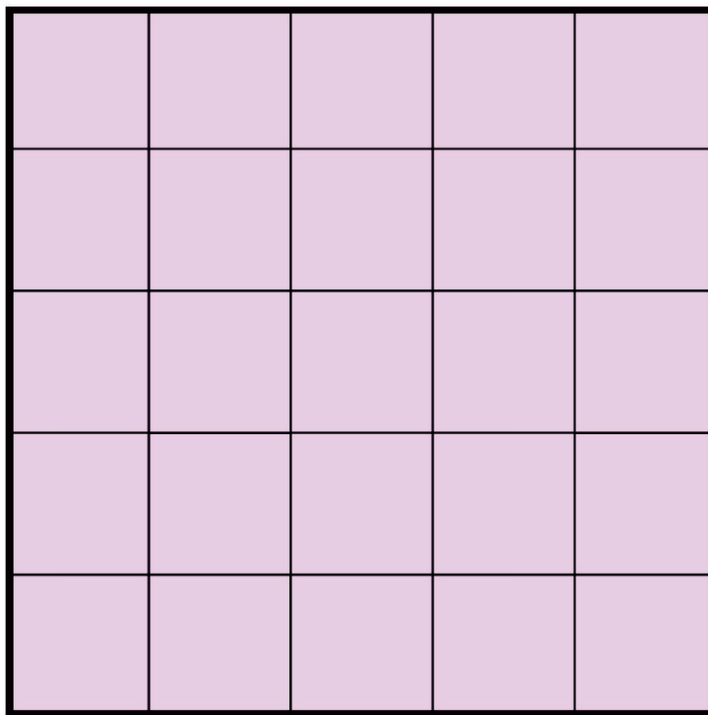




*Games*

## Let's CONNECT this Valentine's Day!


Cut out the game board and heart pieces, then take turns placing hearts in the grid—first to connect four in a row (vertically, horizontally, or diagonally) wins!





## AMELIA BEDELIA CRAFT IDEAS


Check out these printable craft resources from [www.ameliabedeliabooks.com](http://www.ameliabedeliabooks.com).



**Make Your Own Amelia Bedelia Bookmark**

[amelia-bedelia.supadu.io](http://amelia-bedelia.supadu.io)

[www.ameliabedeliabooks.com/activities/make-your-own-amelia-bedelia-bookmark](http://www.ameliabedeliabooks.com/activities/make-your-own-amelia-bedelia-bookmark)



**Valentine Activity**

Surround your friends and family with love by coloring in, cutting out, and...

[amelia-bedelia.supadu.io](http://amelia-bedelia.supadu.io)

[www.ameliabedeliabooks.com/assets/AmeliaBedeliaMakeYourOwnValentine.pdf](http://www.ameliabedeliabooks.com/assets/AmeliaBedeliaMakeYourOwnValentine.pdf)



You did it!



Start here



Read for 20 minutes each day,  
mark one space, and race to the finish to win!  
Get more game boards at [www.DonnaBook.com/for-kids](http://www.DonnaBook.com/for-kids).