

SOAR – Sharing Our Appreciation for Reading Program overview and guidelines

Eagles SOAR – Sharing Our Appreciation for Reading – is a year-round book donation program offering parents and the community an opportunity to donate books to commemorate important occasions, honor special people and inspire young readers.

Eagles SOAR was created to update and extend the reach of what was known as the Adopt-a-Book program. Through the Eagles SOAR program, books can be earmarked for the Oak Grove library (hardcover only for the Elementary library) or United Way of Lake County's Youth Success Initiative, which aims to serve some of Lake County's underprivileged schools. Additional information and guidelines are below.

Where can I drop off my book donation?

The Junior High or Elementary offices. Please make sure to include the information contained on the donation form.

Where can I get a donation form?

Visit the Oak Grove web site or simply include the following information on a piece of paper with your book:

- ✓ Your name
- ✓ The name of the person or event being honored
- ✓ The intended recipient of your donation: The Oak Grove Library or The United Way
- ✓ If you want the person(s) you are honoring to be notified, please include their email address.

Who can I honor through a book donation?

Here are just a few suggestions:

- ✓ Kids
- ✓ Grandkids
- ✓ Grandparents
- ✓ Other family members
- ✓ Friends
- ✓ Teachers
- ✓ Coworkers
- ✓ Clients
- ✓ Coaches

What occasions can I celebrate through a book donation?

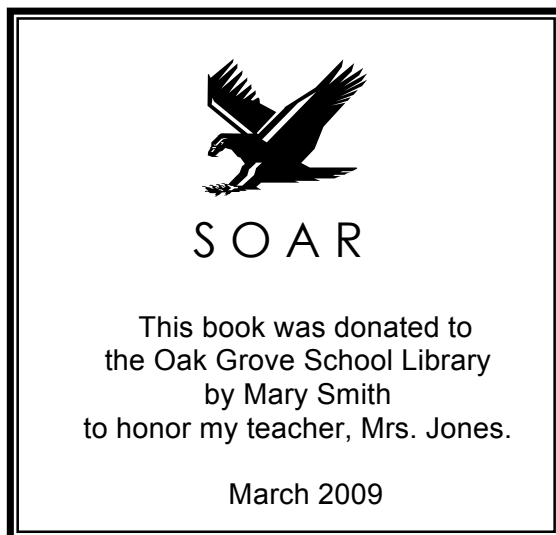
Here are just a few suggestions:

- ✓ Birthdays
- ✓ Anniversaries
- ✓ Congratulations
- ✓ Bar Mitzvahs
- ✓ Graduations
- ✓ "No gifts please" events
- ✓ To say "thank you" or
- ✓ Just because!

What is the bookplate?

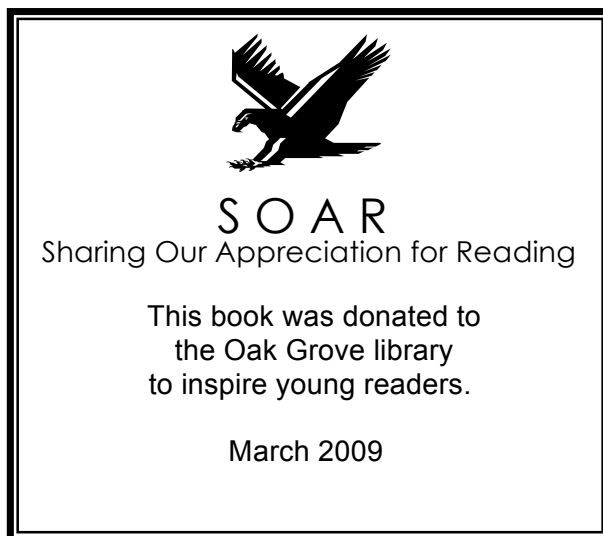
The bookplate is simply a sticker affixed to the inside cover of the book you donate. A copy of the bookplate will be sent via email to the person you honored with your donation.

What do the bookplates look like?



Can I donate a book through the SOAR program without including my name or honoring a specific group or individual?

Yes. The bookplate in this case would read as follows:



Where can I get ideas about the kinds of books the libraries need?

The Elementary and Junior High librarians have provided wish lists on the Oak Grove web site that will be updated frequently. Please check these lists, and if you have questions about a specific book or subject, please feel free to contact the librarians via email.

Must all donated books be hardcover?

The Elementary library can only accept hardcover books (to withstand young readers). Books donated to the Junior High library can be hardcover or paperback.

Can I donate money instead of a book?

Yes. Checks should be made out to the Oak Grove PTO with "SOAR" on the memo line. The money will be used to purchase books suggested on the librarians' wish lists.

Can I donate used books?

No. The SOAR program's efforts are focused on new books. If you have used books you'd like to donate, contact The United Way of Lake County, which is often in need of used books. Also, community service programs conducted by Oak Grove students at various times throughout the year also offer opportunities for you to donate used books.

Can I donate a collection of books?

Because of space considerations, entire collections may be difficult to house. Please contact the librarians via email before purchasing or donating a collection.

What happens if the libraries do not have shelf space or don't feel my book donation is appropriate for their collections at this time?

A member of the SOAR committee will contact you and give you the option to either a) have SOAR donate your book to the United Way Youth Success Initiative or to b) have SOAR return the book to you so you can select a different book.

What happens in the event several copies of the same book are donated?

If you donate a book that has already been received, a member of the SOAR committee will contact you and give you the option to either a) have your book donated to the United Way Youth Success Initiative or to b) donate a different book.

How is it decided whether a book will be added to the libraries' collections?

Books donated through the SOAR program will be evaluated in the same way all books in the libraries' collections are evaluated. The librarians, using their knowledge and understanding of public school library good practices; the ages and grade levels of the students they serve and the needs of the current collections, will make the decision whether to add a particular book to the Oak Grove collections.

Can I donate AV materials?

At this time, only books are accepted through the SOAR program.

Can I get a receipt for my book donation?

At the time, we cannot issue receipts for books.