

# Kick Off Read Across Georgia Month During Get Georgia Reading Day at the Capitol on March 5

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Get Georgia Reading



Gov. Nathan Deal, First Lady Sandra Deal, and special guests will kick off **Read Across Georgia Month** during **Get Georgia Reading Day** in the North Wing of the State Capitol on **Monday, March 5**. Campaign partners will share information and resources starting at 10 a.m., and the press conference will begin at 10:30 a.m.

Mrs. Deal will provide a sneak peak of a homegrown children's book, which will be released in the fall. Georgia's own Carmen Agra Deedy and John McCutcheon, the book's

co-authors, will read the book, and local illustrator Thomas Gonzalez will unveil the cover. Thanks to a partnership with the Georgia Forestry Foundation, the Get Georgia Reading Campaign will provide each public elementary school library in the state with a copy of the book, which will be printed on paper sourced from Georgia.

Mrs. Deal looks forward to sharing the book with Georgia's students this year alongside *Behind the Little Red Door*, a new book by Georgia author and Zac Brown Band guitarist Coy Bowles. *Behind the Little Red Door* was published in partnership with Bright from the Start: Georgia Department of Early Care and Learning and will be presented to Pre-K students and their families in celebration of the 25th birthday of Georgia's Pre-K Program this school year.

Get Georgia Reading Day highlights the importance of reading and literacy skills for future academic growth and success in the workforce. First launched in 2012, Read Across Georgia Month supports Gov. Deal's Grade-Level Reading Initiative, which aims to have all Georgia students reading at grade level or better by the end of the third grade.

We invite you to attend this family friendly event. Thank you for helping us to get Georgia reading in March and throughout the year.