### Media Manners

* **Use “Active Listening” skills**
* **Use quiet voices**
* **Walk in the media center**
* **Use shelf markers**
* **Push in chairs**
* **Put books and other materials away**

**Book Care**

* Handle books with **clean dry hands**.
* **Be careful** turning pages.
* Use a **bookmark**! Never dog-ear pages.
* Keep books **away from babies and pets**.
* Keep books **away from water, food, and drinks.**
* **Please use plastic bags provided by the Media Center to transport books**

# Services Offered

* Instruction in the use of a library media center
* Help with locating books and information
* Assistance with research strategies
* Instruction in using online databases and software
* Lessons on Digital Citizenship and navigating social media

**BOOK DONATIONS** – we accept book donations and will use most popular hardbacks in the media center. If they are not needed in the media center, we will donate them to classrooms or other schools.

# Our Media Team

Welcome

to the

Valley Ridge Academy

Media Center

**Mrs. Ayrish Booysen – Media Specialist**              
I am delighted to be starting my ninth year as a media specialist. This is my 27th year as an educator. Before coming to St. Augustine, I taught for 17 years in Tallahassee, FL. I’ve taught media, K-2 and College courses. My first degree is in Elementary Education and I have a master’s in Information Studies (media specialist). I obtained my National Board Certification in 2003. I enjoy reading, running, traveling and taking pictures.

**Mrs. Kane – Media Assistant**

I have been working in St. Johns County schools for 10 years as a substitute teacher and 5 years as a P.E. Paraprofessional at VRA. I’m excited to now be in the library. I have lived in the Julington Creek area for 15 years. Previously, I lived in New York. I have one adult son who is lucky to live at the beach. I enjoy cooking, walking, biking, and hiking with family and friends.

**Mrs. Rodgers – Media Assistant**

I have been working in the St. Johns County School System for the past 2 years. Before coming to St. Johns, I taught second grade in Clay county for 10 years. This is my first year at VRA and I am excited to get to know all the students here and be able to help foster their love of reading. I live in St. Johns county with my husband Andy, my daughter Zoey, and my son Chase and our two dogs and one cat. As a family, we love spending time together swimming, playing basketball, hiking, and traveling.

**We would like to welcome you to the**

**Media Center. You will find a variety of wonderful books, technology and resources in the Library Media Center. Please use this brochure as a guide to our policies, programs and resources.**

**-Mrs. Ayrish Booysen**

## Media Center Hours

**M, T, Th, and F – 8:00am – 2:45pm**

**Wed. – 8:00am – 1:45pm**

**Getting in Contact**

Contact us at **904-547-4090**

or e-mail Mrs. Ayrish Booysen

[**Shannon.AyrishBooysen@stjohns.k12.fl.us**](mailto:Shannon.AyrishBooysen@stjohns.k12.fl.us)

Our website is

[**http://www-vra.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media**](http://www-vra.stjohns.k12.fl.us/media)

Our Newsletter is The Valley Ridge Reader which will be sent out electronically and posted on our website.

**Library Use Policies**

**Mission**

The mission of the library media program is to ensure that students and staff are effective users of ideas, information and technology. Creating a foundation for lifelong learning and a love of reading is at the heart of our program.



# Check-out Policy

* There is a two-week checkout period. Items can be renewed as needed.
* The number of resources students can check-out is based on the following grade level system.

Kindergarten Students – 1 book

1st & 2nd Grade Students – 2 books

3rd - 8th Grade Students – 3 books

* Students may be given special permission to checkout additional books for research projects and extra check-outs may be given as a reward in media.
* Classroom teachers distribute overdue notices and **parents will be emailed overdue notices when necessary.**
* Fines are not charged, but **students are expected to pay for lost or damaged books**. To pay online visit [www.schoolpay.com](http://www.schoolpay.com).
* **Magazines** will be available for check-out.
* **Parents can request library cards** and check out books with their children.
* **5th Grade** parents may sign for students to check-out Upper Academy Books

Resources

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* **Books/eBooks** – 22,000
* **Magazines** - 6 student magazines
* **Newspaper** - *The St. Augustine Record* and *The Florida Times Union*
* **Professional Teaching Library**
* **Online Resources** – we have subscriptions to:

**~World Book Encyclopedia** <http://www.worldbookonline.com> Username – **vra** Password - **hawks**

**~MackinVIA Ebooks**

<http://www.mackinvia.com> Username –

**student number with the S** Password – **same as HAC or computer log-in password**

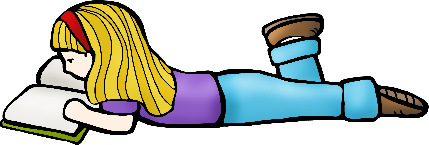
**~Teachingbooks.net** Password - stjohnsfl



# Destiny Library Catalog

Our library catalog is online and available from computers at school and at home <https://search.follettsoftware.com/metasearch/ui/113082>. Then search to find your favorite book or check to see what materials we have available for research.

**Volunteers**

The media center is always looking for volunteers to help shelve books and assist with special projects. There is also a need for Book Fair volunteers and sign-up is through PTO.

# Media Center Programs

**Sunshine State Young Readers Award (SSYRA) Grades 6-8 Middle School**

Students are challenged to read the 15 books from the SSYRA list. Once students have read at least **3 books and passed a test with 70%** accuracy, they are eligible to vote for their favorite book. There will be incentives for reading each of the books. Students who read 10 or more will be invited to try out for the **Battle of the Books team**. For more information and a list of books, visit the VRA Media Center website.

**Sunshine State Young Readers Award (SSYRA) Grades 3-5**

Students are challenged to read the 15 books from the SSYRA list. Once students have read at least **3 books and passed a test with 70%** accuracy, they are eligible to vote for their favorite book. There will be incentives for reading each of the books. Students who read 10 or more will be invited to try out for the **Battle of the Books team**. For more information and a list of books, visit the VRA Media Center website.

**Sunshine State Young Readers Award JR**

This is the same program as above but for grades K-2. **There is not a countywide battle team** but there will be voting and incentives. Students can earn brag tags for a necklace if they pass the book’s test.

# Scholastic Book Fair

Each fall and spring VRA hosts a book fair. Students and parents are invited to shop for books. **Our Fall Fair for Elementary and Middle School is in October.**

**Birthday Book Club**

Birthday Book Club is a wonderful way to commemorate your child’s birthday by donating a book to the media center. Pick up a form from the media center or visit our website.