Sora eBooks & Audiobooks

Sora is a digital reading platform for families to access eBooks, audiobooks and Read-Along books for education and enjoyment.

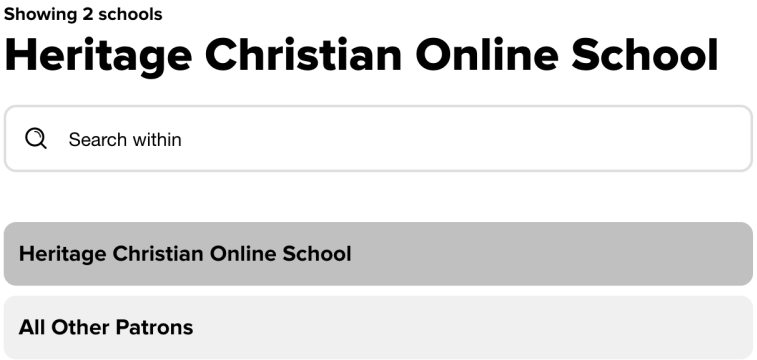
- Getting Started with Sora
- Book Formats
- Profiles & Badges
- Assistive Technology
- Changing the Loan Period
- Adding Public Library Accounts

Getting Started with Sora

Sora is the HCOS digital reading platform, providing students and teachers with instant access to thousands of eBooks and audiobooks anytime, anywhere. It’s a simple and engaging way to support reading and learning across all grade levels.

Getting Started

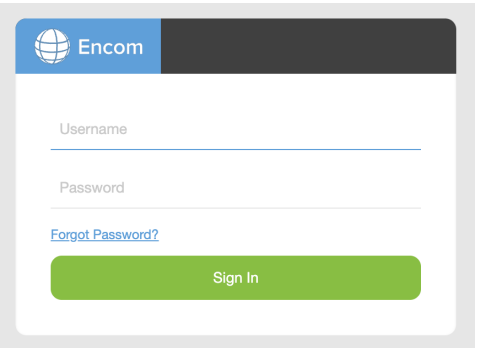
Step 1: Go to https://soraapp.com/library/heritageca and click on "Heritage Christian Online School."



Step 2: Click "Sign in using Heritage Christian Online School."

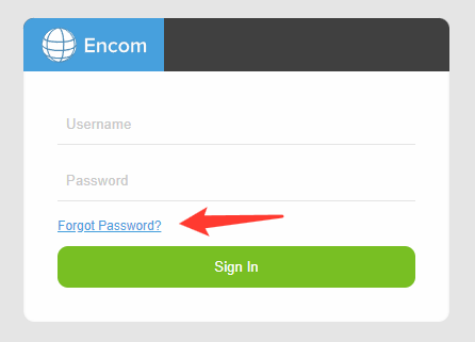


Step 3: Sign in with your Encom account.



You will need your Encom username and password to access Sora

If you need to reset your password, click the “forgot password” link on Sora or Search Portal login pages.



> Sora is also available as an app from the Apple App Store and Google Play Store.

Loan Periods and Limits

eBooks and audiobooks can be checked out for 7, 14, 21, or 28 days. **The default lending period for all formats is 14 days.**

To change your lending period in Sora:

1. Open the **menu** and select **All settings**.
2. Under **General**, select **Lending Periods**.
3. Choose your preferred lending period for eBooks, audiobooks, and magazines.
4. Select **Done**.

The new period applies to future checkouts. You cannot change the lending period after borrowing a title. Titles borrowed from another connected library will use that library’s default lending period.

> **Each account can borrow eight titles at a time.**

Sora Support Videos

- The Sora Essentials Experience (30-minute long, explains all the features of Sora)
- Filtering Collections or Search Results 30-second Video

- Reading Challenges (how to make a challenge for your students). This would work well with our Read for Change contest.
- Reading Goals (set your student's reading goals on Sora)

Book Formats

There are three main book formats in Sora: eBooks, audiobooks, and read-along books.

eBooks

eBooks have text and images, but no audio.

> View the eBook Reader Tutorial for more information about navigating this type of book in Sora.

Audiobooks

Audiobooks are fully audio files. They have a cover image for the book, but no text or images. The headphones symbol 🎧 beneath the cover image indicates audiobook availability.

> View the Audiobook Reader Tutorial for more information about navigating this type of book in Sora.

Read-Along Books

Read-along books have text, images, and audio. Some titles will highlight the text as the audio plays. In Sora, read-along books are available in both fiction and non-fiction genres.

Profiles & Badges

Users can set up their Sora profile to add personalization and collect badge rewards.

Go to https://soraapp.com/profile. At the top left-hand corner, click "Edit profile" to add your nickname and change your image.



Sora allows students to earn achievement badges as they learn about and use the program. Scroll down to view badges on your profile page.

Badges that have been earned will show a coloured image of the badge. When the badge is earned, there will be a pop-up on the screen showing the badge and congratulating the student.



Blast Off!

Open Sora and sign in for the first time

Badges that still need to be earned will tell the badge's name in bold and how to earn the badge beneath the name and the empty badge placeholder. Can you collect them all?



Out of This World

Earn all achievements

Assistive Technology

Different fonts and formatting styles are available to meet many reading needs.

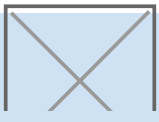
OpenDyslexic

OpenDyslexic is a font created by Abbie Gonzalez and made available for public use. Its goal is to help dyslexic readers overcome some of the most common stumbling blocks. The benefits of using OpenDyslexic include:

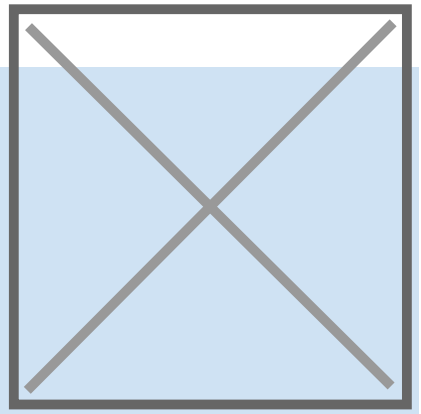
- All letters are spaced further apart so individual letters can be more easily seen.
- The lines used in the lettering change thickness in different areas so readers can more easily distinguish between similarly structured letters.
- The first letter of the first word in a sentence is always bold to help readers know where the sentence starts.

There are two steps to turn on OpenDyslexic in your browser or app:

Step 1: Click on the hamburger menu (three lines) to open the dropdown menu.



Step 2: Use the "Dyslexic Font" toggle switch to turn this feature on and off.

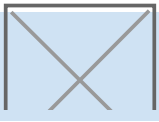


High Contrast

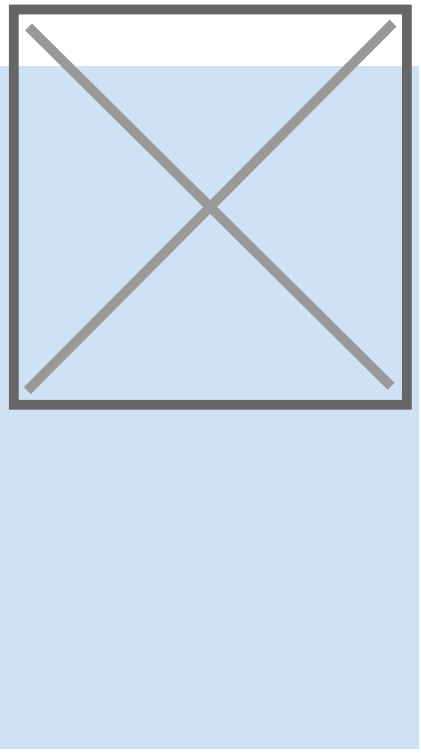
High contrast mode reverses the colours of background and texts while adding yellow accents, creating a stark contrast that some users desire.

There are two steps to turn on High Contrast Mode in your browser or app:

Step 1: Click on the hamburger menu (three lines) to open the dropdown menu.



Step 2: Use the "High Contrast Mode" toggle switch to turn this feature on and off.



Changing the Loan Period

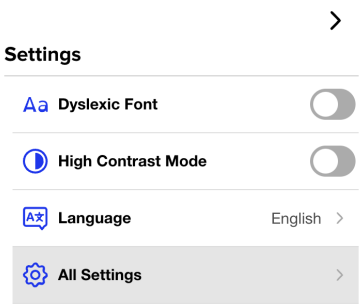
The standard load period in Sora is 14 days, however, there are options for 7, 21, and 28 days. Some readers may benefit from longer loan periods for larger projects.

There are four steps to adjust the loan period in your browser or app:

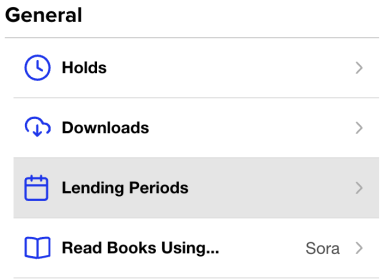
Step 1: Click on the hamburger menu (three lines) to open the dropdown menu.



Step 2: Click on "All Settings."



Step 3: Click on "Lending Periods."



Step 4: Adjust the lending periods as desired, then click on "Done."

Lending Periods

Done

Select a lending period for titles from Heritage Christian Online School.

Some titles have lending periods that can't be changed.

Ebooks

7 days | **14 days** | 21 days | 28 days

Audiobooks

7 days | **14 days** | 21 days | 28 days

Magazines

7 days | **14 days** | 21 days | 28 days

Adding Public Library Accounts

You can use Sora to access eBooks, audiobooks, and read-along books through HCOS and your local public library.

There are two steps to add your local library to Sora in your browser or app:

Step 1: Click on the hamburger menu (three lines) to open the dropdown menu.



Step 2: Click on the "+Add library" button, then search for your local library and sign in using the information found on your library card.

