



**April showers bring May flowers and at AIM-VA, April Showers can unlock reading powers. April's rain gives our students a fantastic opportunity to *snuggle up with a good book* and read. The tools a student needs, a story they want to read, and a timely April shower is all they need.**

As the snow melts and the leaves start to grow,  
How can we make reading something to devour?  
A seed to plant, nourish, an idea to sow.  
April showers unlock reading power.

If the rain is falling and the air damp,

If the weather outside is not stellar,  
Collect blankets, pillows, and then make camp,  
To spend the day reading a new bestseller.

With text accessible and words to read  
With audio to hear, or braille to read  
With tools based on individual need.  
Reading becomes a thing to do with zeal.

This month should be used as a hook.  
To go snuggle up with a good AIM book!

~ *Ian Moore*

## News You Can Use



### Let's Celebrate Shakespeare's Birthday!

William Shakespeare is a world renowned author of plays and poems that continue to influence readers today. It is believed that he was born on April 23rd. Many countries around the world use this day to celebrate and remember Mr. Shakespeare as one who continues to give to the literary world. Visit News You Can Use to explore the various ideas and experiences the celebration can hold for students who use accessible instructional materials to support reading. Browse [AIM-VA's Shakespearian resources](#) and order books to help students with print disabilities experience the writings of this acclaimed author.

[See full blog and other News You Can Use articles](#)

## Knowledge at Noon



### My Favorite App: *Snap&Read*

The third in the series of My Favorite App is Stacie Brady's go-to reading tool; Snap&Read™ Universal. Come join this webinar when Stacie demonstrates the many features that Snap&Read™ offers to students for supporting reading and writing. Features and application ideas will also be discussed; such as viewing

websites, working off-line when the internet is not available, and of course, viewing reading books, textbooks, and curriculum-based materials ordered from AIM-VA! Join us as we discuss this great literacy support tool.

### [Register for Webinars](#)

## Spotlight



### Meet Ian Moore; Technical Assistance

Full-time tech nerd and *Hufflepuff* enthusiast, Ian Moore has been part of the AIM-VA team since 2013. His primary task has been to visit schools across the Commonwealth and share his knowledge about AIM-VA and its integration with assistive technology and accessible instructional materials in general. In his spare-time, he enjoys gaming, reading, Sci-Fi movies and less nerdy things; like hiking, rock climbing, and

spending time with his dogs, Malcolm and Inara. He is super excited about all the new changes to AIM-VA and will continue to advocate and promote a more accessible reading world.

## Did You Know?



### Not AIM-VA Eligible?

Not all students with disabilities need accessible instructional materials (AIM).

- Students with 504 Plans may benefit from using AIM in the classroom and at home.
- Students who otherwise do well in class using standard reading materials might simply like to access their reading materials in alternate formats.

There are many resources for accessing books in other formats. Click here to read about a few!

[Click here to...](#)

## Other Info for You



### April is full of literary celebrations!

Check out a few other literary dates observed in April. Be sure to contact [AIM-VA](#) to have your accessible formats in time for your chosen celebration.

[International Children's Book Day](#) - 4/2

[Drop Everything and Read Day](#) - 4/12

[National Library Week](#) - 4/8-4/12

[Children's Book Day](#) - 4/30



### AIM VA Help Desk

George Mason University  
4400 University Drive, MS 1F2  
Fairfax, VA 22030

Phone: 866-926-1879  
Fax: 703-993-5149  
Email: [aimva@gmu.edu](mailto:aimva@gmu.edu)

### Sponsors:



### Visit our sister sites:



AIM-VA is a service of the Virginia Department of Education (VDOE) through a grant to The Kellar Institute for Human disabilities at George Mason University.