



Herald-Tribune media group

Reading Day celebrates books, diversity



TOP: Roxie Jerde, president and CEO of the Community Foundation of Sarasota County, calls on students to answer questions as she reads "Mango, Abel and Me" to second-grade students in Rebecca Neuman's class at Alta Vista Elementary on Tuesday for Embracing Our Differences Reading Day. More than 8,900 pre-K through third-grade students in Manatee and Sarasota schools participated in the event to recognize the importance of reading and diversity. Embracing Our Differences reached students in 450 classrooms with messages about diversity, bullying and respect. **RIGHT:** Alta Vista Elementary second-grade student Jada Armstrong reads her copy of "Mango, Abel and Me."
PHOTOS BY MIKE LANG/HERALD-TRIBUNE

