Facing a school year of uncertainty with COVID-19 disruptions, Reading Partners collaborated with teachers and school leaders to meet students' learning needs, including creating an online tutoring program.

**STUDENT METRICS**

19 partner schools

420 students received 12+ sessions of one-on-one tutoring

1,317 students and/or family members participated in Reading Partners Beyond programs such as:

- Backpack and book distribution
- Family literacy resources in English and Spanish
- Family engagement workshops
- Student learning packets
- Family texting

**Volunteer Metrics**

516 community tutors

4,232 total hours spent in training

86% of volunteers satisfied with their volunteer experience*

*Among respondents of 2020-21 surveys

**Volunteer metrics**

10,970 total tutoring sessions

100% of sessions delivered online via Reading Partners Connects

**Student performance**

Despite historic educational disruptions, 79% of K-2 Reading Partners students and 67% of all Reading Partners students met or exceeded their primary literacy growth goal.

**INVESTING IN KEY LEARNINGS ENABLES FUTURE GROWTH AND IMPACT**

1. Continuing both in-person and online tutoring will increase program accessibility for students and volunteers.

2. By expanding our family engagement services, we have invested in direct connections that will build holistic supports for students.

3. Our deep investment in race equity, diversity, and inclusion training will ensure volunteers, staff, and AmeriCorps members develop strong connections with students and communities.

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An evidence-based program that gets results
A CLOSER LOOK AT OUR READING PARTNERS BEYOND INNOVATION PROGRAMS

Book distribution: To combat the “summer slide” and celebrate student progress made during the school year, Reading Partners distributed culturally diverse books to students along with learning materials to support comprehension practice at the end of the school year.

Family literacy resources in English and Spanish: Regions shared Reading Partners-designed one-page literacy resources for parents and caregivers written in English and Spanish, with other languages to be added as the need arises.

Family engagement workshops: Reading Partners provided opportunities for families to learn more about literacy strategies and resources to support learning at home through quarterly virtual workshops.

Student learning packets: In alignment with Reading Partners’ curriculum levels, Reading Partners compiled and distributed materials to support student learning at home using materials that can be found in the home and do not require technology.

INNOVATION EXTENDED TO OUR VOLUNTEER TUTOR TRAINING

Reading Partners Connects online tutoring: Reading Partners Connects allowed Reading Partners volunteer tutors to continue to support students in an online environment using Reading Partners’ evidence-based curriculum. All volunteer tutors participated in four hours of Reading Partners Connects training to ensure that they were prepared to deliver sessions effectively through a digital platform.

Educational equity: Both returning and new volunteers received training on educational equity this past year during the tutor orientation process. This included examining challenges our public schools are facing, the opportunity gap, and common myths about learning to read. Orientations also encouraged volunteers to reflect on their own identities and examine implicit biases and how to disrupt them. On the 2020-21 two-month tutor survey, 86 percent of respondents affirmed that they were able to reflect on educational equity and implicit bias during their initial training.

Social-emotional learning: Both returning and new volunteers also received training during the tutor orientation on social-emotional learning—what it is, how it is baked into our program model, and what supporting students’ social-emotional learning looks like in action.

Trauma-informed practices: This tutor training defines types of trauma, informs how trauma may show up in the brain/body and how tutors may notice it showing up in a session, and provides tangible strategies that tutors can use to support their students.

OUR PROGRAM WORKS

A recent DC Public Schools evaluation found that students who participated in Reading Partners in 2018-19 scored 30% higher on their DIBELS (Dynamic Indicators of Basic Early Literacy Skills) test scores than their peers who did not participate in our program.