Reading Partners helps children become lifelong readers by empowering communities to provide individualized instruction with measurable results.

Advancing Educational Equity

The 2020-21 school year marks Reading Partners’ 10th anniversary. Although our program implementation is changing significantly, our overarching goal remains the same as we fight to achieve educational equity for our students.

The Literacy Challenge

Literacy is the foundation of all successful learning. Without reading, students do not have the skills they need to be successful in their academic careers and beyond.

Nationwide, fewer than 1 in 5 students from low-income homes are reading proficiently by the 4th grade (which equates to 8.7 million children).

Students who are not reading proficiently by the end of 4th grade are four times more likely to drop out of high school.

Program Innovations

In 2020-21, we are piloting Reading Partners Connects, an innovative program that will allow us to continue to partner with schools and provide volunteer-led one-on-one literacy instruction to students learning in an online environment.

In addition, we are providing our students with access to a digital library full of high-quality texts as well as a wide range of family engagement opportunities.

This school year, we are committed to serving 650 students while partnering with 19 schools across Washington, DC, mobilizing over 870 community volunteers.