



New Tutor Orientation

Welcome to Reading Partners! This orientation will provide a brief introduction to the Reading Partners program as well as an overview of what to expect as a Reading Partner. As a Reading Partner, you will work one-on-one with a student to help them improve their literacy skills.

Reading Partners empowers students to succeed in reading and in life by recruiting and training community volunteers to provide one-on-one literacy tutoring. A national education nonprofit, we work with under-resourced elementary schools to support students who are reading below grade level. Our program delivers a highly effective curriculum that has helped tens of thousands of children master foundational reading skills.

A randomized control trial conducted by MDRC, an independent policy research firm, found Reading Partners to have positive and statistically significant impacts on reading proficiency. The research has been accepted and highlighted by the [What Works Clearinghouse \(WWC\)](#).

BY THE NUMBERS

20,000

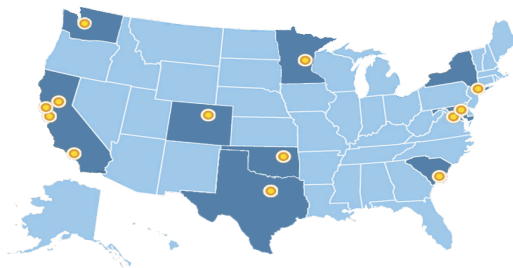
Volunteers

11,000

Students

200+

Reading Centers



AREAS SERVED

San Francisco Bay Area
Sacramento
Los Angeles
Seattle
Colorado
Tulsa

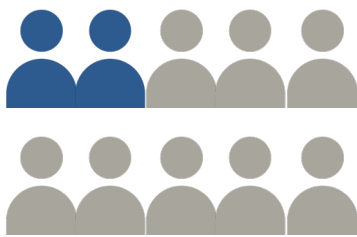
North Texas
Twin Cities, MN
Charleston
Washington, DC
Baltimore
New York

90%

of target students increased their monthly rates of literacy learning.

72%

of students narrowed their literacy gaps with their peers who read at grade level.



THE CHALLENGE IS SIGNIFICANT

In the US, 8 out of 10 fourth graders from low-income families cannot read at grade level.

4x

STRONG READING SKILLS ARE ESSENTIAL

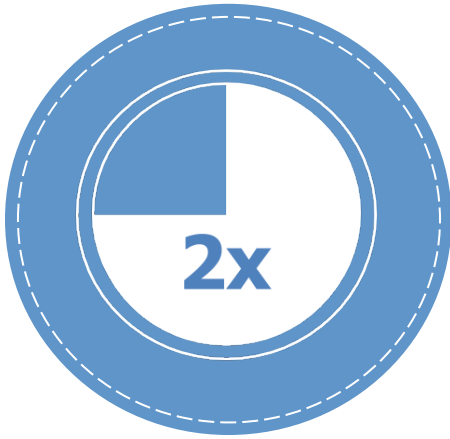
Children who cannot read proficiently by the fourth grade are four times less likely to graduate on time—hindering their chances to succeed in college, career, and life.



READING PARTNERS WORKS

Equipped with an easy-to-use, highly effective curriculum, Reading Partners' tutors have helped thousands of students become strong, confident readers.

Our Program Model



Students attend 45 minute sessions twice a week with a volunteer tutor who is coached and supported by the Site Coordinator.



The individualized nature of the program presents opportunities for students to revisit standards not yet mastered in an one-on-one supportive environment.



Reading Partners' instruction is aligned to state standards to promote student mastery. Our curriculum is structured in an easy to follow format for tutors of all backgrounds.

What To Expect During A Typical Tutoring Session

TUTOR PREP

5-10
minutes

Tutor arrives 5-10 minutes prior to the start of their session to review that day's lesson materials and tutor notes.

TUTOR READ ALOUD

45
minutes

Each session starts with a tutor read aloud. Students select a book from the read aloud library for the tutor to read with them.

LESSON SKILL

Tutor introduces a new skill using the lesson plan. Students will have an opportunity to practice and apply this skill through activities and a student read aloud.

TUTOR WRAP-UP

5-10
minutes

Tutor writes notes on student's accomplishments and challenges during the session and recommendations for next time.

GENERAL TUTOR EXPECTATIONS

Reading Partners wants you to have the best experience. In order to help you succeed as a Reading Partner we ask that you meet the following expectations.

- Use the Reading Partners curriculum when tutoring students
- Commit to at least one regularly scheduled session per week
- Arrive on time and prepared for tutoring
- Communicate any questions, concerns or issues with your Site Coordinator
- Assist Reading Partners in creating a safe, structured and positive learning environment for students

Reading Partners also requires all volunteers to undergo a thorough background check, and in some cases, a tuberculosis test. This ensures the safety of all students and tutors in the program. During your Shadow Session, you will go over the Tutor Code of Conduct; which will walk through in more detail the expectations of the program.



READING PARTNERS WILL:

- Provide training and coaching to empower you as a tutor to effectively support student achievement
- Provide continual support to you during the school year via check-ins and debrief sessions with your Site Coordinator
- Provide a safe, positive, and structured environment conducive to learning
- Answer questions you may have as a tutor
- Keep your contact information strictly confidential

NEXT STEPS

Your next steps are to come in for a Shadow Session or Group Tutor Training. At this orientation, you'll meet your Site Coordinator, get oriented to the reading center, and observe tutoring.

Before you come in for your in-person orientation you can also watch the introduction video on this page. See you soon!