

REGIONAL IMPACT & INNOVATION REPORT

2019–20: Baltimore



Delivering results in the face of challenges posed by COVID-19
The 2019-20 school year was unlike any other in our history due to the disruptions caused by the global health pandemic. As a result, the report below shows the progress made while students were in school as well as the student support innovations implemented after stay-in-place orders were issued.

AUGUST 2019 – EARLY MARCH 2020: Progress made while students were in school

Student performance (based on mid-year assessments)

Despite a significantly shorter school year, Reading Partners students showed impressive gains in foundational reading skills.

73% of all Reading Partners students were meeting or exceeding their primary literacy growth goal.

76% of K-2 Reading Partners students were developing mastery of key foundational reading skills* needed to read at grade level.

*We track growth in the key foundational literacy skills students need to become independent readers, such as alphabetic principle, phonics, and vocabulary.

By the numbers (through March 2020)

506
students served

703
community tutors

63%
students experiencing economic disadvantages*

14,752
tutoring sessions

16
partner schools

29
average sessions per student

*Economically disadvantaged percentage calculated using 2018-19 school-level direct certification data.

Program highlights (based on 2019-20 survey respondents)

97% of **VOLUNTEERS** were satisfied with their volunteer experience.

"I cannot thank Reading Partners enough for what the program has done for our children. To be able to practice reading with a caring adult is an invaluable gift, and their contribution to early literacy development is immensely appreciated."

—Baba Olumiji, Principal, Johnston Square Elementary School

MID-MARCH – JUNE 2020: Student support innovations

Reading Partners rapidly implemented the following literacy supports selectively in regions across the country to ensure students could continue making progress toward reading on grade level.



"Take reading with you" book distribution for students



Literacy skill videos using research-based curriculum materials*



Family texting program in partnership with Bright by Text*



Digital library platform with free access to high-quality books



Individualized reading plan skill videos customized for specific students



Family literacy resources designed in English and Spanish*



Live virtual read alouds available to all students*



Recorded "anytime" read aloud videos featuring high-quality diverse texts



Summer books for students and literacy tips and resources for families

*Innovation implemented locally

An evidence-based program that gets results

Multiple independent studies of Reading Partners show significant impacts on student literacy skills and emerging evidence suggests positive outcomes on social-emotional learning.

