

READING PARTNERS BEYOND

Program innovations: 2020-21



Reading Partners is making adjustments to our program as needed to create flexibility with our school partners and better meet our students' needs. Each region will implement the programming below in alignment with the requests and requirements from schools and districts. Therefore, the implementation of these programs in each Reading Partners region will vary.

Reading Partners Connects (1-on-1 online tutoring)



Reading Partners Connects will allow Reading Partners to continue to serve students in an online environment using Reading Partners' evidence-based curriculum. Content will integrate our trusted curriculum skills and lessons into innovative presentations to optimize student engagement and incorporate social-emotional learning (SEL) opportunities through relationship-building with tutors.

If we cannot bring volunteers into schools, are limited in the number of sessions possible due to social distancing, or need to push into classrooms, Reading Partners Connects will allow us to continue supporting students' literacy needs.

"Reading Partners is part of our school family. We have had volunteers come into our building and also assist our school because of Reading Partners. Our students are thriving in reading and in their social-emotional learning as well due to this crucial partnership. Knowing that the partnership can continue during this traumatic time is much needed and appreciated."

- Sonia Loskot, Principal at David G. Burnet Elementary School

Reading Partners in the classroom

We recognize that as schools may need to reduce class sizes for social distancing, more classrooms in each school will be needed and we may lose our physical tutoring spaces. Learning time in the classroom may be limited by either supplemental pull-out time being reduced or if students are on campus/in buildings for a reduced number of days per week and we may need to tutor in the classroom to accommodate for these limitations. In any case, we will be prepared to take our current curriculum and tutors into the classroom if needed.



Small group tutoring

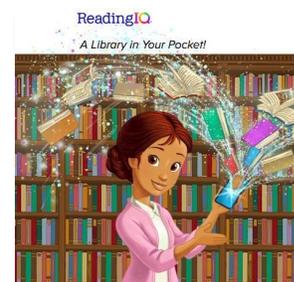
With student time potentially limited or more students behind at the start of the year as a result of school closures, we may need to shift from serving students one-on-one to small groups to meet principal requests to serve greater student needs.



Tutoring With the Lightning Squad: Piloted in FY20 in two Reading Partners' regions, this web-based tutoring program has students working in pairs to practice literacy skills up to a mid-third grade level. A trained adult monitors and supports the session. One adult can support two to four students who are working in pairs on laptops or tablets.

Digital library

Expanding the FY20 pilot, the ReadingIQ app will provide access to a digital library of high-quality texts for students. As we continue to expand our reach and offer "Whole School" literacy services in our current school partners, this opportunity could be shared with both Reading Partners' students and the broader school population. There is a subscription cost of \$25 per student, which Reading Partners plans to cover through private philanthropy.



Family engagement

The best information available at this time indicates that blended learning will be the course forward for many districts, with students having time in schools with teachers while also continuing with some remote learning. Reading Partners believes that families and caregivers have always been vital to student success and should be engaged whenever possible in the year ahead. Below, we outline ways that Reading Partners will increase our support of families and students at home in the 2020-21 school year:



Family texting: Reading Partners will text literacy tips to families in English or Spanish 2-3 times per week, along with helpful links to how-to videos and additional information.



Student Learning Packets: Reading Partners will compile materials that can be distributed to support learning at home in alignment with Reading Partners' curriculum levels.



Family Literacy Resources: Regions can share Reading Partners-designed one-page literacy resources for parents and caregivers written in English and Spanish, with potentially other languages added as the need arises.



Family Engagement Workshops: Reading Partners will partner with schools to be actively involved in family outreach and participation opportunities to facilitate in-person and/or virtual literacy workshops for families.



Family Advisory Groups: Launching later in the year, Reading Partners will create regionally driven family advisory groups where parents and other caregivers in our communities will be able to share their needs and wants around literacy.