



Read to Them[®]

INFORMATION BROCHURE



www.readtothem.org

Welcome to Read to Them!

Read to Them programs help you create a memorable reading experience across your community. Every student gets a copy of the selected title. At home, families read together following a reading schedule. At school, teachers use materials from their Book Resource Page within their Client Portal to enrich their students' experience with the book.

Build better readers by filling children with stories. The research is clear – the best way to prepare children to be readers and learners is to read aloud to them, and a quality book with fun activities is a great way to start.

Table of Contents:

| | |
|--|----|
| Welcome..... | 2 |
| Programs Overview..... | 3 |
| Summer OSOB..... | 4 |
| Reading Chapter Books to Younger Students..... | 6 |
| Family Literacy Model & Benefits..... | 7 |
| What's Included?..... | 8 |
| Sample Book Packet Resources..... | 9 |
| Compare Our Programs..... | 12 |
| Funding Solutions..... | 13 |
| Testimonials..... | 14 |



Programs Overview

Read to Them offers a full suite of family literacy programs. Let us help you find the right one for your community of readers.

One School One Book®

Our flagship program provides the underlying premise for all of our family literacy programs. Choose one book from our curated list of specially selected titles. Send a copy home with every student in your school. Families read the novel at home. Students celebrate and explore the novel at school. This essential strategy reinforces reading instruction, increases parental involvement, supports the home-school connection, and builds a true community of readers. Some schools read two or three books together in a year. We feature an expansive list of over 150 titles for students from Pre-K through Middle School.

One District One Book®

One District, One Book® follows the One School, One Book® family literacy model, expanding it to include two or more elementary and/or middle schools within a district. Discounts for multiple schools reading the same book at the same time may be available. Read to Them is happy to help you select a title to engage students and families across your district. When families district-wide are reading together, children are truly surrounded by literacy.

States Read One Book®

With the States Read One Book® program, schools and districts within a state read one book together. Read to Them selects both a title highlighting Financial Literacy and the timing when the all-read can start... all for a streamlined decision process for schools. Active state-wide programs can be found in Mississippi, Texas, and Virginia.

Each of our family literacy programs seeks to grow our community of readers and achieve our vision of a culture of literacy in every community.



Celebrate Summer with One School, One Book



Family literacy shouldn't stop when summer vacation begins. Instead, keep the fun rolling through the summer by sharing one title with your whole community.

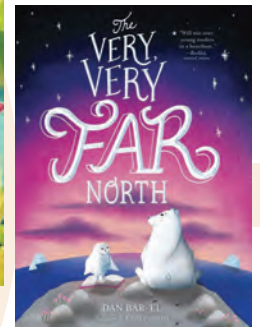
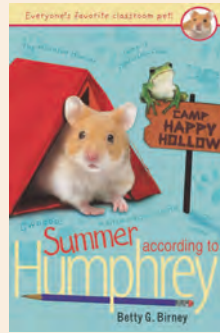
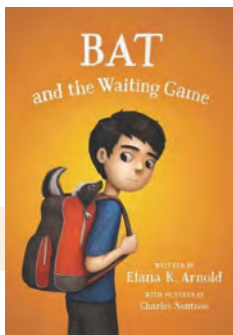
Why do a school-wide reading program in the summer?

Literacy – You've worked hard on literacy all year. Keep students moving forward over the summer! Further fuel a love of stories by reading a book together and enhance vocabulary and background knowledge.

Connection – Strengthen the bonds within your school community during the summer by having everyone share a common, fun reading experience.

How do you get started?

Choose a title – Here are great summer titles with themes like family, vacation, and adventure.



Available in Spanish

For more title options, click [here](#) to see the rest of our Summer Fun catalog. Reach out to us at (804) 367-3195 or programs@readtothem.org for additional help finding the perfect book.

Assemble your materials – Our summer titles come with our full array of book-specific materials: trivia, activities, discussion questions, and more. We also provide a Family Fun Pack to promote family engagement while students are away from school.

Kick it off right – A rollicking kick-off assembly before you leave school will create curiosity and build excitement. Then distribute books and family materials and start reading!

How do you keep everyone engaged over the summer?

It's easy with our book-related materials. Here are some tips:

- Send home the **Family Fun Pack**, an easy way for families to engage. Start the day with trivia. Do an activity in the afternoon. Have a discussion over dinner. Join with other families for a neighborhood trivia night, sidewalk chalk art exhibition, and picnic with foods from the book. See who on the block will be the first one to get BINGO on our card with quick and easy activities.
- Highlight our **Kahoot! quizzes** for a digital way to engage with others in your community.
- Supplement the Family Fun Pack with ideas from our school-based **Activities** list. Look for ideas that can be easily adapted to summer – food-based activities and outdoor games are great options. Send them home periodically over the summer to keep families exploring.
- Invite community businesses and civic organizations to join the fun. Put our **Book Posters** around town and encourage families to snap selfies with them. A discount at your indie book store for a correct trivia answer, a book-themed treat at the local ice cream parlor, or a read-aloud tent at the Farmer's Market.
- Plan **Virtual and In-Person Meet-ups** to build community. Discussion circles at the coffee shop, virtual trivia face-offs, an art gallery at the public library, group read alouds in the park or on your school's social media. Maybe even a book-themed float in the 4th of July parade!
- Encourage families to post on **Social Media** the various places they are reading and see who comes up with the most unusual one. Whose book traveled the farthest? Went to the highest elevation? Got the most sandy?
- Plan a big **Book Celebration** for the end of the summer. Invite families and community members for book-themed activities like a Trivia Bowl, scavenger hunt, games, food, and art projects.
- And when you are back at school in the fall, use our materials for some **School-based Engagement**, also.

Ready to get started?
Go to your title of choice on our website
and click the ADD TO QUOTE button.



Reading Chapter Books to Young Students

Can your younger students handle a full novel?

Yes, with some support they can!

- Children can listen to stories that are above their reading level. It is true for picture books and it is true for novels, too.
- Two of our title audiences (*Elementary: Trends Younger* and *Elementary: All Grades*) are specifically curated to support a wide range of listeners. See our [Browse Titles](#) page for all of our sort and filter options.
- Our Reading Schedules break the novel down into manageable pieces, about 15 minutes, the same amount of time as reading one or two picture books.
- We provide Read-Aloud Tips to help families make their reading time interactive and engaging.

How can you prepare your younger students for your school-wide reading program?

- Encourage the teachers of younger students to read longer picture books and early chapter books aloud in class.
- Expand the books offered to younger students in your school library. This way, longer books start going home in advance of your program.
- When you sign up for your Read to Them program and receive access to your materials, send the Reading Tips home right away so families can start practicing good read-aloud habits.



“

I tell every librarian I meet and every parent I know that if you or your school do not already use this program, start yesterday!”

LINDA GARRISON
Canterbury School of Florida

The Family Literacy Model

The Family Literacy Model demonstrates that participating in a Read to Them program can connect three vital pillars to surround a child with literacy.

Once the book is received, students are encouraged to read it with their families each night.

With such an exciting title, it's no surprise that kids share their thoughts about the book with their peers, allowing for conversations to spark and spread across all grade levels.

When a whole school is talking about one book, connections are forged and a sense of community is established, one that lasts far beyond the span of your program.



Benefits

Our read-aloud programs present a unique opportunity to bring both home and school together to support children's literacy, with far-reaching benefits.

Our Programs Help You...

- Build better readers by filling children with stories. The research is clear – the best way to prepare children to be readers and learners is to read aloud to them, and a quality book with fun activities is a great way to start.
- Start good family reading habits by having families join the entire school community to read every night for several weeks in a row. Reading aloud as a family becomes part of the nightly routine when it is reinforced with a great book and a communal experience.
- Encourage family engagement by having parents play an essential role in your read-aloud program. And once parents get involved in such a fun and fulfilling experience, they are more likely to stay involved in your school.
- Foster a positive school community when everyone associated with your school participates in one big, shared experience with one fantastic book. The fun you have with your book will bring your school community together, across grade levels and amidst your faculty and staff.
- Broaden students and families' thinking about books and literature by showing them all the connections that can be drawn from one book. By using the trivia questions, activities, and discussion questions, your students will learn to make a deeper connection with literature.
- Forge community relationships by inviting community members to be part of the reading program.

You'll receive:

Books:

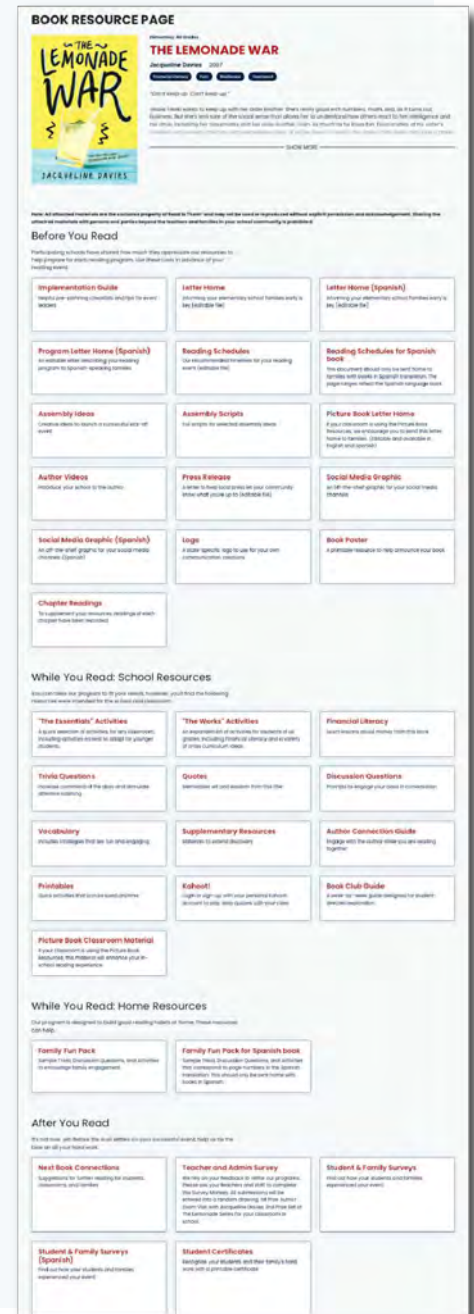
Books ship directly to you. You will receive one book per student and 5% more for your staff.

Access to your Client Portal and your title-specific Book Resource Page, which includes resources for every stage of your program:

- **Before You Read** – Everything you need for your planning process, such as resources to help launch your reading program, to get the most out of the program, and to increase your community awareness and involvement. You will also receive an editable letter explaining the program and a reading schedule for your families, ideas for a rollicking kick-off assembly, author videos, and printable posters.
- **While You Read: School Resources** – Equip your teachers to engage students throughout the program by using trivia and discussion questions, as well as cross-curriculum activities, a family financial literacy guide, and Kahoot! Quizzes.
- **While You Read: Home Resources** – Increase family engagement with your program. Support families with read-aloud tips and challenge them to complete a bingo card with fun activities.
- **After You Read** – We want to hear from you! Fill out our survey to let us know how your program went.

Swag:

Your school will also receive program swag to help amplify excitement in your school and classroom. These items include program and/or book posters and bookmarks for each of your students.



“With 25 years of experience in the teaching arena, I’ve never come across a program that was so easy to plan, provide directives for, and implement using a simple concept that demonstrated amazing results.”

KATIE POE
Principal, Timmons Elementary School



Sample Book Packet Resources



Read to Them will provide you with title-specific resources on your school's Book Resource Page that are fun and easy to implement at your school. Here are some samples of those resources from four classics in our catalog.

A Sample Kickoff Event Assembly Script for *Matilda* by Roald Dahl

Stage the principal's office. Two kids steal in and stuff the parrot in a closet or in a filing cabinet or something. Then, they sit down and wait. Principal arrives, sits down, looks at the students disapprovingly.

Principal: Jane, Michael, what's this all about? Your teacher tells me you have been disruptive all morning. What's going on?

Michael: Nothing.

Principal: Jane?

Jane: I don't know what she's talking about.

Principal: I have a full report here from both of your teachers!

No response from Jane or Michael. Principal is resigned.

Principal: Well then, I'm going to have to write this up. And call your parents. It could mean a suspension for each of you.

Offstage Voice: (spooky voice) I don't think so!

Principal: What?! Why?

Offstage Voice: You leave those children be or I will haunt your office...

Principal: What? You can't do that!

Offstage Voice: I can, and I have. And you're next if you don't let those children go!

You can play this as long as you want. The Offstage voice can haunt the cafeteria, the gym, the bus loop, and finally the library. The Librarian can then respond to the Voice saying, "I'm not afraid of you! I know all about you from this book." – *Matilda* by Roald Dahl

Sample Trivia Questions for *Because of Winn-Dixie* by Kate DiCamillo

1. What did Winn-Dixie knock over when he first met Opal?
 - **Oranges**
2. What did Winn-Dixie do – that Opal had never seen a dog do before – when he first met Opal?
 - **He smiled.**
3. Who said, “You are a suffering dog”?
 - **Opal**
4. Opal’s father used to be a missionary. Where?
 - **India**
5. Who does Preacher Buloni call a Less Fortunate One?
 - **Winn-Dixie**

Sample Discussion Questions for *The Wild Robot* by Peter Brown

1. Roz powers down for the night by having her “nonessential programs switched off.” (p. 25) How would you describe your process to fall asleep? Is it as quick as Roz’s? Do you have any kind of routine you follow at night? Would you like to be able to flip a switch like Roz?
2. Roz says, “I do not understand you, bears.” (p. 37) When you are confused or don’t understand someone, what do you do? What advice would you give Rob to better understand the world around her?
3. Roz observes the natural world around her. If you’re alone in a space, what are some things you tend to notice first? Sounds or smells? Colors or shapes? How might taking the time to observe your surroundings improve your sense of awareness?

Sample Activities for *Finding Langston* by Lesa Cline-Ransome

1. **Talk It Up to Langston (Language Arts/Media)** – Sometimes Miss Cook sets aside books she thinks Langston will like. Have students take Miss Cook’s place. Let them choose one or two contemporary books they think Langston would like, and present book talks to the class as if they were trying to convince Langston to read the book. You may want to compile a list of these recommendations and post it for everyone’s reference.
2. **I Got the Blues (Music)** – Share a few blues songs and highlight the lyrics for the students. Have students write their own blues songs using a template based on your favorite blues songs. You can also share Langston Hughes reading “The Weary Blues” set to music: The Weary Blues. There are other options available online. Students may get a different feeling from different readings and accompaniments of the same poem.

3. **Design YourOwnLibrary (STEM)** – The library was a sanctuary for Langston. Allow students to design their own library in a way that would bring them peace and enlightenment. What would they include? What would they have on the walls? What type of furniture would they include? If possible, take a field trip to a local public or university library for inspiration.

4. **Lecture Series Posters (Art)** – Have students create promotional posters for the Hall Library’s Book Review and Lecture Forum, or as Clem calls it, the meetings for “those big-time writers.” (p. 65) The posters can depict one or a few of the authors noted in the book. Or they can depict contemporary authors that might appear at a current version of the Forum. Encourage them to think about what elements they could include that would draw people into the library for the event.

5. **Joe Louis (Social Studies)** – A newsboy shouts out that Joe Louis, (aka “The Brown Bomber”), knocks out another boxer. Langston notes the feeling that Joe Louis is fighting for “all of us colored folks.” (p. 91) Share with students information about Joe Louis and why he was so important to the Black community at the time. You may want to share *Joe Louis: America’s Fighter* by David Adler for some reference.

Sample Financial Literacy Activities for *Dog Days* by Karen English

1. **Business Plan** – Gavin passes several businesses throughout the story as he walks Carlotta. He sees a donut shop, a hobby shop, a coffee shop, Wendy’s Wonderful Wigs, a butcher shop, Mr. D’s, and a bike shop. Have students come up with an idea for a new business for your community. What will the name of their business be? What will they sell? Who will their customers be? They can design a sign for their new business, complete with the name, a logo, and a tagline.

2. **Save Your Pennies!** – Gavin thinks he will just use some of the money he’s been saving up for a skateboard to buy Carlotta a new chew toy. Saving means that you put money away to spend later, rather than spending it right now, and that can be hard for some people to do. Ask your students if they have ever saved up to buy something. How did they do it? You can roleplay saving vs. spending by giving students some play money. They can use that money to buy some small trinkets today or save it to buy something better next week. Have them talk about their thought process and how they made their decision.

3. **Pet Store Shopping Spree** – Let students pretend they are ready to buy a new dog. They have \$25 to buy supplies, accessories, and food for their pet. They can use a pet store website to decide what they are going to buy with their \$25. Or you can use this price list:

| | |
|----------------------|------|
| Leash | \$15 |
| Collar | \$10 |
| Food and Water Bowls | \$12 |
| Dog Bed | \$15 |
| Squeaky Toy | \$7 |
| Rawhide | \$6 |
| Treats | \$4 |
| Tennis Balls | \$3 |

Compare Our Programs

| Program | One School, One Book | One District, One Book | States Read One Book |
|--|-------------------------|---------------------------|-------------------------|
| Base Pricing* | \$7.95 per student | \$7.95 per student | \$6.95 per student |
| Discount Opportunities** | ✓ | ✓ | |
| Full Suite of Program Resources | ✓ | ✓ | ✓ |
| Exclusive Bonus Book Pages | | | ✓ |
| Title & Kick-Off Date Preselected | | | ✓ |
| Title & Kick-Off Date School's Choice | ✓ | ✓ | |

All programs include 5% of the student order as complimentary staff copies along with swag and free shipping. Additional discounted staff or community copies are available if needed.

*The prices listed above are considered the “base” book charge per student. We offer the majority of our titles at our base charge. Some titles in our catalog incur an additional surcharge (graphic novels, picture books, some Spanish titles, and select titles only available in hardcover). For a full list of books with surcharges, please contact programs@readtothem.org.

****Discount Opportunities:**

There are unique circumstances that present the opportunity for schools to receive discounts on their program order. These include schools that have 2 or 3 reading events in the same year and schools that are reading the same book on the same schedule with other schools in their district.

Visit our [website](#) to browse our catalog of over 150 titles and to request a non-binding quote.

Funding Solutions

Here are some successful strategies schools have used to secure financial support for your read-aloud program.

Title I Funding

Read to Them programs fulfill the parental engagement requirement of Title I funding. This funding has been successfully used by many schools to fund the entire program. Go to <http://bit.ly/3HXB36X> to see our Read to Them Title I Information Sheet.

Grants

Some local, state, and national philanthropies provide grant funding for literacy initiatives. See our Read to Them Fundraising Toolkit at <http://bit.ly/44AfLVU> for assistance in writing a winning proposal.

Community Funding Sources

Your community may be interested in underwriting your family literacy program. Schools have been successful at securing funding from:

- Community Groups – Kiwanis, Junior League, Rotary Club, and other civic groups
- Business Leaders – The Chamber of Commerce, major local employers, and other businesses who can support your school
- Banks – Under the Community Reinvestment Act, banks are encouraged to reinvest into their communities and can make great partners, especially on financial literacy titles.

School-based Funding Sources

You may be able to fund your reading program within your school. Schools have used these approaches to finance the program:

- PTA/PTO Sponsorship – The school/family connection of our read-aloud programs make it a natural project for the PTA/PTO to fund.
- Fundraising – Some schools do a specific fundraiser, either through a traditional fundraising campaign or a community appeal through local media.

Discounts

By joining with other schools in your district or ordering more than one title per year, you can reduce your per-student cost. Call or email us for more information on discounts.

Our Read to Them staff is happy to discuss funding strategies with you. Call or email us with your questions.



“ Our school has enjoyed this program for the last 5 years. This is an excellent opportunity to connect with family outside the school walls. The students have always fallen in love with the books that are chosen and we have found a camaraderie blossom within our school walls between grade levels. I would highly recommend One School One Book!”

JODEE PRICE

Trinity Lutheran School

“ Students, teachers, and staff had new conversations about the book we were all reading. There aren't many times when, outside of the English classroom, everyone can share the same reading experience that leads to discussion and many activities that reach across different subjects taught.”

BROOKE SUTTLE

Bald Knob Middle School

“ The book has prompted family engagement in our schools and at home. Parents are making more of an effort to read with their children at home since embarking on the [reading] journey.”

KATIE FULAYTER

Library Director at Monrovia Elementary School



Email us: programs@readtothem.org
www.readtothem.org
[@readtothem](https://www.instagram.com/readtothem)