Kindergarten readiness is happening—how to talk about a book, how to connect with a book physically, how to share supplies, use scissors, identify colors and numbers. Plus we are showing parents how to introduce these things to the kids at home as well.

“The AmeriCorps member talks to the parents about the importance of reading and distributes books to parents. Without her, we would not be able to reach as many families. We probably would not reach 75 percent of the families we now reach.”

“Through the WRC, we often interact with students in a smaller group setting that allows us to know students and give them the individualized attention they normally don’t receive. It shows an immense amount of personal growth for the student and also the importance of the Washington Reading Corps program in struggling schools.”

Testimonials

WRC Grant Awards 2012-2013
School Districts served

Schools (alphabetical by school name)

Early Learning sites

Community Learning Centers
Bellevue Family YMCA Child Development Center, Birch Creek Youth Center, Boys & Girls Club of Bellevue, Boys & Girls Club of Whatcom County, Carroll Children’s Center, Center for Human Services, Child Care Action Council, Educational Opportunities for Youth & Families, EPIC, La Casa Hogar Yakima Interfaith, New futures, Seattle World School, South Sound Reading Foundation, SW WA Child Care Consortium, WA State Center for Childhood Deafness & Hearing Loss, West Hills STEM Academy, YMCA-Downtown Seattle Branch.

For more information, contact:
Kezia Prater
Washington Service Corps
P.O. Box 9046
Olympia, WA 98507-9046
Phone: 360-486-5911
Fax: 360-407-2647
E-mail: kprater@esd.wa.gov

Helping Children Read!
Providing Reading Tutors for Successful Futures
Preliminary Successes of 2011-2012 Program Year

- 9,685 struggling readers were tutored by the Washington Reading Corps (members received training in research-based tutoring methods)
- Over half (56%) of students tutored met benchmark or gained a grade level in reading (students were a grade or more behind)
- 70% of students improved in their reading behaviors, attitudes and confidence as reported by teacher assessments
- Over 90 family literacy events were organized, providing parents and caregivers engagement opportunities
- 5,095 community volunteers donated 51,224 hours of tutoring service (valued at $21.63/hr = $1,107,975)
- Connections were made across grade levels by 2,274 peer and cross-age tutors, donating 21,368 hours of service

2010-2011 data
most recent year is under analysis

State Funds are Critical to Leverage Federal Dollars

$1.03 million state funds leverages $3.3 million per year in competitively awarded federal funds from the Corporation for National and Community Service. In order to receive the federal funds, a non-federal cash match is required. The state funds provide a portion of the cash match.

Impacts on Washington’s Economy

Reading Corps members spend $3.1 million of their living allowance in Washington State per year.

Members received a federally funded education award of $5,550 upon completion of their service year. Of all WSC members surveyed:

- 52% use their award in Washington, injecting an additional $288,600 into our economy
- 44% of members plan to pursue a career in education
- 96% report gaining career development skills during their service year
- 90% of members plan to continue volunteering in their communities after their service year

“AmeriCorps members help children pre-school through sixth grade develop literacy and social emotional skills.

Washington Reading Corps places 260 AmeriCorps members in 99 elementary and four middle schools and 28 early learning and community learning sites throughout Washington. Members are placed in high need schools and early learning centers where the average free/reduced lunch percentage is 60%.

Average Weekly Improvement
Oral Reading Fluency - Words Correct Per Minute

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Grade</th>
<th>Natl. Avg (25th Percentile)</th>
<th>WRC students</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>2nd</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.93</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd</td>
<td>1.1</td>
<td>1.43</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>4th</td>
<td>0.9</td>
<td>1.34</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Data collected on the results of the Dynamic Indicators Basic Early Literacy Skills (DIBELS) assessments from WRC schools.

“Today a reader, tomorrow a leader”
- Margaret Fuller

“Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.”
- Henry Ford