



# READING PALS

A Community Reading Initiative

## Community Engagement

Community participation is the cornerstone for success of the Reading Pals program. In 2016-17, 165 volunteers logged 5,730 hours of reading time with students.

## Strategic Identification

Students are identified as candidates for the program by school staff and are connected to a Reading Pals volunteer for 30 min, 2X per week.

## Educational Excellence

Together, the volunteer and student, work through Flying Start's proven literacy curriculum.

## Connection to Home & Future

After reading sessions students are encouraged to grow their skills at home by taking a gently-used book from a Take-Reading-Home library.



## 2016-2017 Annual Report

Reading Pals is a local literacy campaign started by community members who recognize the importance of reading and the implications that illiteracy will have on our community if the problem is not addressed.

We are committed to providing every child an opportunity for an excellent education through one-on-one reading help for students who currently do not read at grade level with a focus on 2nd through 4th grade.

Since our launch in November 2013 we have paired 660 kids with 525 volunteers to read together, 1-on-1 for over 16,000 hours.



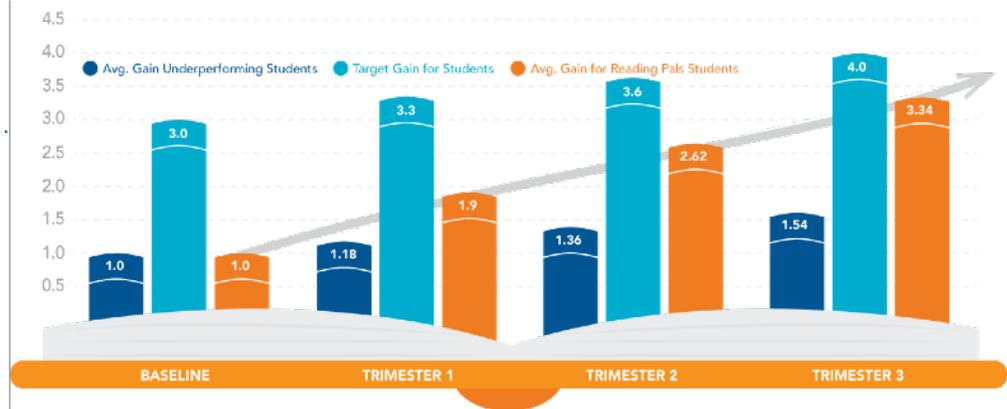


## End of Year Results

Since the inception of Reading Pals, our results have remained consistent, despite an expanding enrollment. Student data demonstrates those who are enrolled in Reading Pals *gain an average of 2.3 months of literacy skills for every month they are in the program*, (according to their STAR IRL scores). The majority of our students are mastering reading skills faster than they did before, as well as, beginning to learn at a rate which will enable them to catch up to their grade appropriate reading levels.

### 2015- 2016 Numbers

- 168 Students
- 148 Volunteers
- 4,400 hours
- Majority of 2nd & 3rd grade students



### Average IRL Gain Per Month in 2016-17:

**Chapman 2.1 | 33 Volunteers | 46 Students**

**Citrus 2.4 | 46 Volunteers | 56 Students**

**McManus 2.3 | 44 Volunteers | 49 Students**

**Rosedale 2.2 | 41 Volunteers | 52 Students**

### 2016- 2017 Numbers

- 203 Students
- 165 Volunteers
- 5,730 Hours
- Majority 2nd & 3rd grade students



The Bottom Line:

Students dramatically improve when someone reads *with them!*