

The mission of Raising Readers in Story County is to improve language and literacy development in children from birth to age eight and nurture healthy parent-child relationships.



January 2018



'A room without books is like a body without a soul.' - Cicero



Happy New Year!

What a great December for Raising Readers in Story County. We participated in two very meaningful events right before Christmas. Many families do not have the ability to provide a holiday meal for their families, toys for under the tree, or new books to read together on Christmas Eve. Story County is so lucky to have many wonderful programs and services for those in need. Raising Readers in Story County was honored to provide new books at two organizations dedicated to providing food for families in the county.



Marguerite Sibley reads to a family at Bethesda as they wait to get their Christmas meal basket.

On December 15, RRSC distributed 86 new children's books to families at the Bethesda Food Pantry Christmas Meal pick-up. Families who use the food pantry were able to select new books for their children and grandchildren. We also had a wrapping station so that either they or one of our volunteers could wrap the books as presents. 151 books were given out at the November 17th distribution in time for Thanksgiving!. Thank you Marguerite Sibley and Emily Schaack for coordinating this year's program.

On December 20, RRSC distributed 426 new children's books to families participating in The Salvation Army's meal and toy distribution. 181 families were served by this special event. The ingredients for a holiday meal were picked up by families who had registered to participate. Those parents and caregivers were then able to pick out toys that were generously donated by hundreds of Story County residents and then pick out a book for each child in their household. Books were purchased through a grant from United Way of Story County. 398 extra books not given out were donated to The Salvation Army to stock the RRSC Reading Corner

at the pantry. These books go home with children each time their parents visit the food pantry.

More pictures from both events are up on our [Facebook](#) page. Thank you to everyone who volunteered at the events and labeled books. We cannot impact families without your help!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'Kim Hanna'.

Kim Hanna, Executive Director

If your New Year's Resolution is to volunteer more, we can help! We have several programs that need volunteers this spring and summer-and we always need volunteers to label books! If you are interested in learning more, please email us at volunteers@raising-readers.org or call us at 515-520-8686.



THANK YOU!

We thank all of our generous donors, volunteers, and partners who are helping to create brighter futures for Story County children and families.

Donations like yours support our programs. We thank businesses in Story County who support our programs! **21st Century Rehab** in Nevada and **Kinetic Edge Physical Therapy** in Ames presented checks to Executive Director Kim Hanna in December. Your support helps make our programs possible!

If you would like to help support the vital programs offered by Raising Readers in Story County please make a gift today!





DONATE

Dates to Remember

Calendar of Programs

Eastern Story County Step Into Storybooks

Saturday, March 3, 2018

Central Elementary School, Nevada

Step Into Storybooks

Saturday, April 14, 2018

Ames Public Library

2018 Summer Reading Buddies

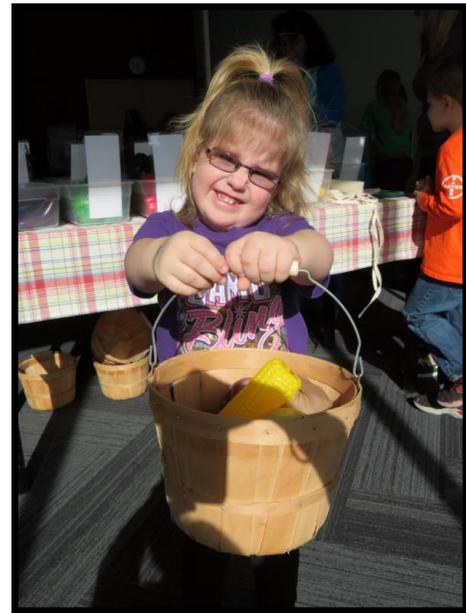
June 11-28 and July 9-26

Sites TBA

2018 Super K

June-August 2018

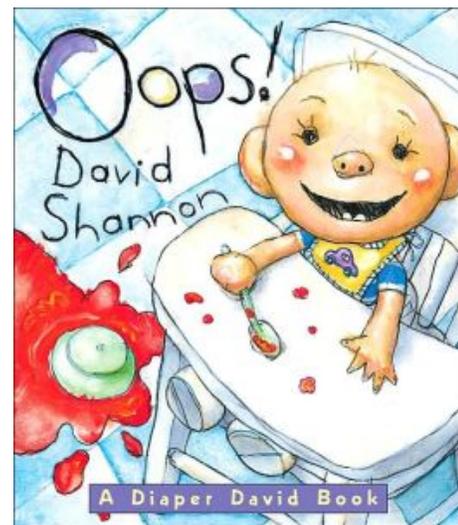
Ames and Nevada



#WeekendReading

Follow us on [Facebook](#), [Twitter](#) and [Instagram](#) to get inspiration each Friday on a book to read with your family!

If you have a favorite #weekendreading book that you read as a family, email contact@raising-readers.org and we may feature it in the coming weeks!



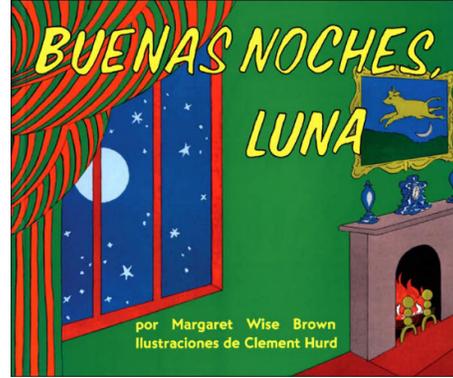
RRSC Wish List

We are so grateful for our volunteers and supporters and have a few things that we are

looking to add to our organization. If you would like to donate, please contact us at contact@raising-readers.org.

Wish List

- Roller suitcases (all sizes)
- Korean/Mandarin/Cantonese language children's books
- Spanish language children's books
- Arabic language children's books
- Fabric tote bags *you know, the ones that are in a pile in your closet!*
- Empty cereal boxes and empty round oatmeal containers with lids for Summer 2018 Enrichment programs



Tote bags with handles help us carry books easily!

[Visit Our Website](#)

Raising Readers in Story County | 515-520-8686 | contact@raising-readers.org

STAY CONNECTED:

