



RRSC Story Lines

Growing Readers, Changing Futures: Our Mission Matters Now

Dear Friends of Raising Readers,

As summer winds down, things are busier than ever at Raising Readers in Story County! Our team has been out in the community at outreach events, connecting with families, sharing books, and spreading the word about the importance of early literacy. At the same time, we're wrapping up our summer programs, filled with reading, learning, and laughter, and already gearing up for fall program enrollments.

There's an urgency to our mission. Every day, we see the difference that early literacy support makes for children and families in our community. Whether it's a baby's first board book, a preschooler's excitement at storytime, or a school-aged child gaining reading confidence through one-on-one mentoring, your support helps make it all possible.

Support RRSC!



Click below to support our mission to impact children's literacy and share the joy of reading

DONATE

Thank you for believing in the power of literacy. Together, we're building a brighter future for Story County's children.

Yours in literacy~

Kristi Mayo

Executive Director

Raising Readers in Story County



If you'd like to explore other contribution options more in line with planned or recurrent giving, please send us an email. We are happy to discuss our full menu of donation opportunities with you.

RRSC mission: To support the language and literacy of young children by providing books, caregiver guidance, and early childhood programs.

**Playful Pages
Family
Workshops in
Nevada ~
Summer 2025**

BAM BOOK DRIVE NOW THRU AUG 17

Stop by Books-A-Million in Ames and donate a book to support Raising Readers in Story County! Your donations will stock our book access programs that put stories directly into the hands of local children.



Math Talk

Math talk includes talking about numbers, sizes, shapes and positions throughout all parts of the day! Research shows talking with math words increases your child's math concepts even before they can talk!

Open-Ended Questions

These types of questions increase conversation. They don't have a single-word right answer and instead invite children to respond in their own way and encourage more back-and-forth exchange.

Small Talk

AUGUST TALKING TIPS

Small Talk families have been hard at work (and play!) this month as we explore simple but powerful ways to boost language and brain development and strengthen parent-child bonds.

Brain Research

The studies show that babies crave communication from the very beginning. Children who participate in programs like Small Talk are more likely to enter preschool ready to read, and research shows they have higher IQs than their peers 10 years later.

Food Talk

Talking about food is more than naming what's on your plate. It's a powerful way to build language throughout the day. We explore how to talk about food before, during, and after meals or snacks. Try talking about taste and texture to avoid words like good/bad.

EVENTS and
PROGRAMS

Raising
Readers
Community
Outreach

What's next?

Check out our calendar of events to see where you'll find Raising Readers!

- August 14 & 28
 - **STARS Storytime**

RRSC office at North Grand Mall, Ames, 10-10:30 am

- August 22
 - **Huxley Prairie Fest**

Huxley, 5-8 pm

- August 27
 - **ISU Welcome Fest**

ISU Memorial Union, Ames, 5:30-8:30 pm

- September 6
 - **Monarch Magic**

Ada Hayden Park, Ames, 10:00 am - 1 pm

Monarch Magic is a free, family-friendly event for all ages taking place at Ada Hayden Heritage Park. Experience the magic of finding native pollinators and making observations to help scientists track their populations! There are many fun activities like a temporary tattoo station, obstacle course, bioblitz, and much more!

Saturday, September 6, 2025 from 10 am-1 pm
Ada Hayden Heritage Park – 5205 Grand Ave, Ames
(meet at the NE parking lot shelter to check in)

prcd.org/events



Raising Readers and volunteer Melissa at the Slater Children's Market - July 7



Volunteer & Event Coordinator Hanna ready for Zearing Days - July 25

Share Your Volunteer Story



Have you enjoyed volunteering with Raising Readers? Share your volunteer story with us! We would love to hear about the impact it's made on your life!

Contact the Volunteer Coordinator at hannabell@raising-readers.org to share your story and a photo



* Quick Tip *

View Your Volunteer Schedule Using the Calendar Feature



If you enjoy seeing all of your upcoming volunteer activities for the month, you'll want to check out Vome's volunteer calendar. Simply go the left sidebar and click "Schedule." At the top of the schedule page is an option to alter how you view your schedule. Select "Calendar" to view your schedule on a monthly basis or choose "List" to view in chronological order as a list. You can also filter your schedule by week or day by selecting the appropriate drop down option in the right corner.



Interested in learning more? Contact Hanna Bell at hannabell@raising-readers.org to set up an appointment.

Follow Us on Social Media



Connect with us online and keep up to date with the latest RRSC happenings!



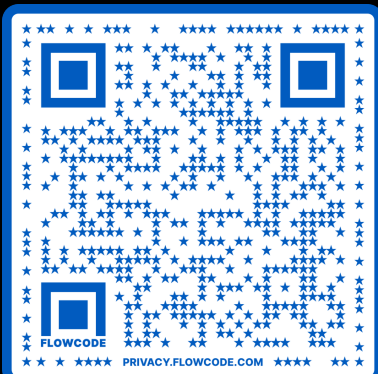
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