

[About Us](#)[Register for Programs](#)[Volunteer](#)

RRSC Story Lines

Read Across Story County

Dear Friends of Raising Readers,

September brought so many opportunities for Raising Readers to share the love and importance of reading with the children and families of our community, not the least of which was our Read Across Story County event held in conjunction with the United Way of Story County's Day of Caring on September 13. On this day dozens of community volunteers, along with our faithful Raising Readers volunteers and staff, took our mission of literacy for all to county elementary schools. We read stories to hundreds of children and shared how books and literacy skill have value and power in our lives. I thank the many volunteers who made time on that beautiful Friday to share the joy of reading and serve as models for the power literacy holds in helping reach our goals in life.

Warm regards,

Kristi Mayo

Executive Director

Raising Readers in Story County



Hanna Bell, RRSC Volunteer Coordinator takes a moment to share her love of reading with Fellows Elem students during Read Across Story County



Thank you

We appreciate all of the volunteers who joined us on September 13th to read across Story County!



Support RRSC!

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

[*DONATE*](#)



Volunteers sharing their love of books with classrooms during Read Across Story County

EVENTS and PROGRAMS

What's next?

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

- October 14 & 28
 - **STARS Storytime**

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

- October 29
 - **Downtown Trick-or-Treat**

Main Street Nevada, 4:30-6:30 pm

- October 30
 - **Malloween**

North Grand Mall, Ames, 4:30-6:30 pm

*Sensory Friendly Space hosted in RRSC offices from 4-6 pm

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





North Grand Mall and Story County Reads are pleased to present

MALLOWEEN

Free bags, activity sheets, and prizes!

2024



OCTOBER 30

4:30-6:30 PM

NORTH GRAND MALL

Enter from main east doors or south doors by
cinema to start at welcome tables

NEW!

SENSORY FRIENDLY AREA 4-6 PM

A calming, sensory focused space for families who need it.
Located in Raising Readers near Planet Fitness



SCAN THE CODE TO VOLUNTEER OR DONATE
and learn more about Story County Reads!



Fall Programs Kickoff!

September brought a great kick off to Fall programs!

Reading Buddies began at three sites with six session times available for 22 participants. We have a waitlist of participants at the Ames Public Library site and are still looking for volunteers to match them with.

Site details:

- Ames Public Library 12 students (+waitlist)**
- Memorial Lutheran Church Nevada 3 students**
- Northminster Church Ames 7 students**



Story Pals is just starting with our preschool learners. Volunteers at two sites work children to build language, spark joy in literacy, and build positive relationships. Forty-four students are benefiting from Story Pals this fall and again, with more volunteers, we could serve even more!

- Northwood Preschool 36 preschoolers**
- Central Elementary 8 preschoolers (+waitlist)**

SMALL TALK SUMMER 2024 HIGHLIGHTS

July 10 - September 12 Virtual Parent Sessions

Wednesday at 10:00am
or
Thursday at 6:30 pm

- 7 Families enrolled
- 5 Families graduated
- Residence: 1 family from Story City, 6 from Ames
- Ethnicity/Race: 2 families identified as black, 1 family identified as Asian American, and 4 families as White.

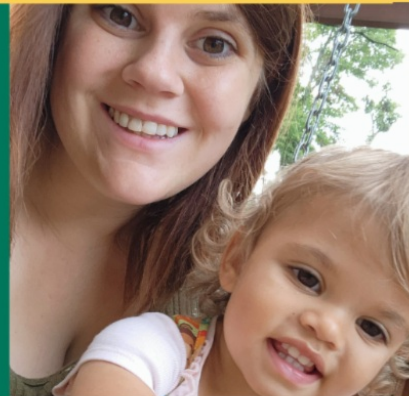


Parent Survey Result

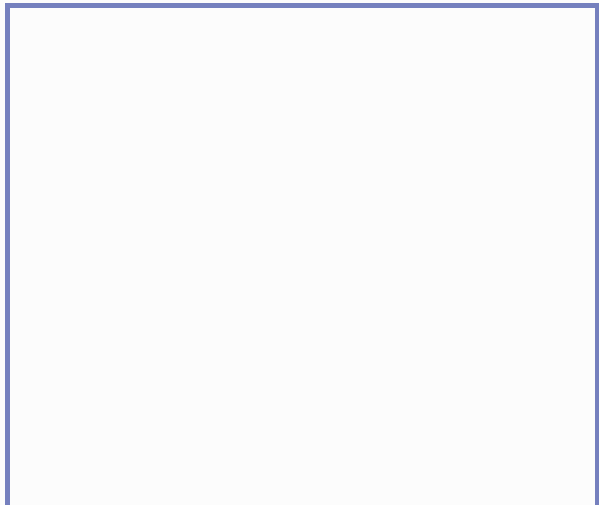
All parents strongly agree....

- They learned more about talking with their baby and how it impacts their baby's language and development
- They are talking and reading more with their baby.

Group Stars Report



Summer Small Talk families exceeded their goals and are talking, reading and having more conversational turns with their baby! The last two weeks is when they made the greatest gains.



Get To Know Our Volunteers



**Sally
Miller**

**Nel
Cochren**

Visit Nel and Sally at our welcome desk in North Grand Mall on Thursday mornings from 10 AM - 12 PM! They would love to say hello and help you learn more about Raising Readers.

Interested in Learning More?

- Stop by our space in the North Grand Mall to chat with our welcome desk volunteers about their experience
- Visit our website at <https://www.raising-readers.org/programs/open-hours-at-the-mall> to see our hours of operation and welcome desk schedule
- Make an appointment with Hanna Bell at hannabell@raising-readers.org to discover how you can become a welcome desk volunteer



Contact Us
515-520-8686

contact@raising-readers.org

www.raising-readers.org

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