RAISING READERS IN STORY COUNTY

STARS Storytime Volunteer Job Description

Position Overview

Raising Readers in Story County (RRSC) is seeking volunteers to support the STARS Storytime program at the North Grand Mall location. STARS Storytime provides opportunities for young children and their caregivers to participate in interactive reading and play activities every other week. Through stories, singing, role-play, and play-based activities, the program encourages children's language development, speaking and listening skills, and social-emotional growth. Volunteers assist RRSC staff with program activities and help create a welcoming and engaging environment for children and families.

Responsibilities

- Assist with storytime attendance, paperwork, and participant check-in.
- Support children's social-emotional learning through reading, role-play, singing, and interactive play.
- Help parents and caregivers select age-appropriate books for their children.
- Assist the Family Literacy Specialist with preparing, facilitating, and organizing storytime activities.
- Help organize and distribute books, supplies, and program materials.
- Encourage children and caregivers to participate in reading and play activities.
- Help clean up and organize the program space following each session.
- Complete other duties as assigned.

Maintenance and Safety Requirements

- Follow RRSC safety procedures and staff instructions.
- Maintain a clean, organized, and safe environment for children and families.
- Follow all procedures and guidelines for working with children.
- Properly use and care for books, toys, and program materials.
- Maintain confidentiality and respect the privacy of participating families.
- Remain attentive to children's safety and interactions throughout each session.
- Report safety concerns, behavioral concerns, or incidents to the Family Literacy Specialist or RRSC staff promptly.

Qualifications

- Must be at least 16 years of age.
- Must pass a background check.

- English language comprehension.
- Effective verbal and non-verbal communication skills.
- Ability to problem solve and adapt to program needs.
- Effective interpersonal and relationship-building skills.
- Comfortable interacting with young children and their caregivers.
- Ability to sit on the floor for extended periods.
- Ability to get up and down from floor-level seating and activities.
- Flexible and willing to assist with a variety of program activities.
- Patience, enthusiasm, and a positive attitude when working with children and families.
- No previous STARS Storytime training is required.

Time Commitment

- STARS Storytime sessions are held at the RRSC North Grand Mall location.
- Volunteers should arrive on time and be prepared to assist before, during, and after each session.
- Specific dates and volunteer schedules will be communicated by RRSC staff based on program needs and volunteer availability.

Volunteer Expectations

- Treat children, caregivers, volunteers, and RRSC staff with respect and professionalism.
- Help create a welcoming, inclusive, and encouraging environment for all families.
- Follow RRSC policies, procedures, and staff direction.
- Maintain confidentiality regarding participant and family information.
- Be dependable and communicate promptly about scheduling conflicts or absences.
- Remain engaged and attentive throughout storytime activities.
- Encourage caregiver participation and positive interactions between parents and children.
- Ask questions and seek guidance from the Family Literacy Specialist when needed.
- Complete all required screening and onboarding requirements before volunteering.

Impact

STARS Storytime volunteers help create meaningful early literacy experiences for young children and their caregivers. By supporting interactive reading, singing, and play, volunteers encourage children's language development, speaking and listening skills, and social-emotional growth. Their involvement also helps caregivers discover ways to incorporate reading and meaningful conversations into everyday interactions with their children.