

About Us

Register for Programs

Volunteer



RRSC Story Lines

Raising Readers in Story County Happenings

Our mission is in full swing at Raising Readers with spring programming well underway, frequent visitors to our Read & Play space at North Grand Mall, and plans underway to welcome the community to the upcoming Story County Reads annual event, Step Into Story Books!

Check out our upcoming events, get details on current and future programs, plus discover opportunities to help us fulfill our mission. Whether it's a donation of volunteer time or financial support, we appreciate how our community embraces our work!



UPCOMING EVENTS and PROGRAMS

What's next?

Our summer calendar is filling fast! Let us know if

you'd like us to add fun (and free books) to your community events and celebrations!

- April 8

- **STARS Storytime**

RRSC office at North Grand Mall

10-10:30am

- **Playful Pages Family Workshop:
Weather Wonders**

RRSC office at North Grand Mall

3:30-4:30pm

Sign up today!

- April 22

- **STARS Storytime**

RRSC office at North Grand Mall

10-10:30am

- May 4

- **Step into Storybooks**

North Grand Mall

10:00am-1:00pm

For children ages 0-5 and their

- May 6

- **STARS Storytime**

RRSC office at North Grand Mall

10-10:30am

- May 13

- **STARS Storytime**

RRSC office at North Grand Mall

10-10:30am

- May 18

- **Playful Pages Family Workshop:
Green Thumbs**

RRSC office at North Grand Mall

9:30-10:30am

Sign up three weeks prior!

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



Support RRSC!

Please donate to support our mission to impact children's literacy

[DONATE](#)



Perusing Programs

Providing Books | Caregiver Guidance | Early Childhood Programs



Playful Pages: Family Workshops Pilot Program

- February - Building Buddies
(Construction and building)
 - Six families participated
- March - Digging Dinos
(Dinosaurs and paleontology)
 - Six families participated, 10 families signed up with four families on the waitlist
- April - Weather Wonders
(Story County's varied weather)
 - Seven families signed up so far!



Spring Story Pals - partners with three area preschools

- Ames Community Preschool Center - 5 students
- Central Elementary PreK - 18 students
- Northwood Preschool - 34 students



Step into Storybooks - coming soon!

- Saturday, May 4 | 10:00am - 1:00pm
- Children ages 0-5 and their families
- North Grand Mall

Summer registration and interest forms are open!

- **Story Pals**
- **Reading Buddies**

Contact: [Laura](#) for more program info

March SMALL TALK

Graduates

Congratulations to all 7 of our March Small Talk Graduates! Six families met in-person, while one met virtually. Remarkably, our in-person group exceeded the group STARS goal set by LENA, doubling the target by increasing their talk, conversational turns, and reading minutes. Here's to their remarkable achievements and their babies' bright futures!



Volunteers

A heartfelt thanks to our volunteers who make our in-person classes possible. Responding to parent interest, we wanted to offer evening sessions, knowing this would bring new challenges. With the assistance of the Ames Morning Rotarians, ISU Extension, Ames Public Library and all the individuals who dedicated their Thursday evenings with us, we could provide a safe and fun place for babies, and their siblings, while parents engaged in group discussions.



Gift Books

What an incredible milestone! Small Talk families earned a new book each week of the program, equaling 10 books for each family, and totaling over 70 books! Parents report they are reading more with their baby and have new strategies to make it engaging and fun. Families were thrilled to see their baby's library grow and reported significant increases in daily reading minutes. This achievement not only celebrates the love for reading but also highlights the profound impact of Small Talk in fostering a lifelong love for learning.



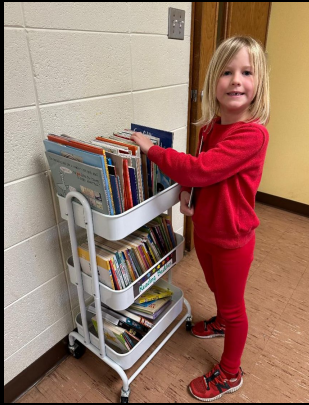
Volunteer Spotlight

Our programs depend on the support of community volunteers to deliver so many of our programs. Whether you love to work with children, label and deliver books, or participate in occasional events, we have a place for



you! Explore our volunteer opportunities to see how you can make a difference for the children in Story County.

[VOLUNTEER at Raising Readers](#)



Contact Us
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