

“I have been retired for a few years. My wife heard about the program and thought that it would be a good idea for us to help other children since our own kids are grown. When I first met my student, I was nervous. I said, ‘We’re going to have to do a partnership here. We will read books together. I will help you and you will help me; because there may be some words that I don’t know.’ I now look forward to going to the school every week and working with Tyler. The program is easy to follow and the books are terrific. We read and talk about what we have read. Tyler recently told me that, because of me, he has read more books in the past couple of months than he had read in his whole life. I can see a big difference. His reading skills have improved and he feels good about himself. What’s come out of this is even more than I expected.”

– Volunteer Tutor



Join the Ruth Rales Comcast Kids Reading Network

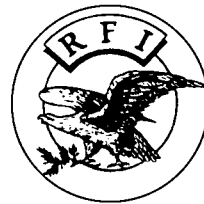
For more information, call the Reading Network volunteer office at
301-279-3890

or visit
www.montgomeryschoolsmd.org/readingnetwork



Montgomery County Public Schools

Rockville, Maryland

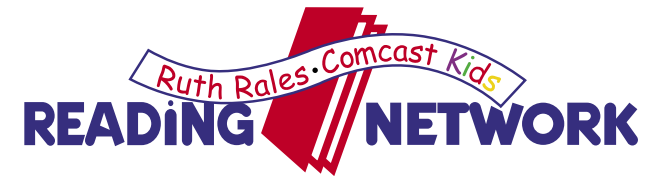


A Partnership of the RFI Foundation, Comcast of Montgomery County, Montgomery County Government, and the Montgomery County Public Schools, in participation with Interages, Inc., Passion for Learning, Inc., and George B. Thomas, Sr. Learning Academy, Inc.

Volunteer...



...Make a Difference in a Child's Life



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The Key Ingredients for Success

"Helping a student improve his reading skills has been a rewarding experience."

–Volunteer Tutor

Credit for the program's success is due in part to the high quality of the materials and the training provided to tutors. Trained professionals work with Reading Network tutors to make sure they know how best to help students improve their skills and their enjoyment of reading.

Tutors participate in ongoing training with a coordinator based at the school. Student progress is monitored weekly and appropriate support and feedback are provided to the tutors.

Each tutorial session follows a scripted format so tutors and students know what to expect and can move comfortably through each lesson. Materials include a tutor guidebook, student activity book, and a high-quality trade book.

On average, students gain at least one grade level in reading fluency and comprehension by the end of the program.

Why should you become a tutor in the Reading Network?

There is nothing more rewarding than watching the eyes of a young child light up when she discovers the joy of reading. Some children need assistance outside the classroom to boost their reading skills. With this extra help, these students can develop the skills necessary for them to succeed in school and in life. This is especially true in those areas of Montgomery County with the highest levels of poverty.

The Reading Network uses a proven tutorial program called "Reading Together," which is easy to use and extremely effective. Tutors often see success with their students right away. And by the end of the program, most students have gained at least one grade level in reading fluency and comprehension.

"I am giving something to the community by tutoring a child. One hour a week is making a difference for the child I tutor."

–Volunteer Tutor

Reading Network Facts

- Located in 56 elementary schools, reaching 840 students
- Targets Grade 2 students reading at or below grade level
- Provides weekly, one-on-one, hour-long tutoring sessions
- Focuses on vocabulary, fluency, and comprehension
- Builds students' confidence
- Uses volunteers of all ages, including parents and peer tutors
- Takes place before, during, or after school

"I liked spending time reading with my tutor. Now I like to read all kinds of books."

–Second Grader