



California

“My son grabs his red bag daily to read. It also helps him with his speech and reading strategies. The name Raising A Reader says it all! It helps us encourage our son to expand his love of books and reading.”

-Parent, Lincoln Elementary, Santa Ana, California



WHAT WE KNOW

Learning begins prenatally, and children are actively learning from the time they are born. The foundations of learning are established in the earliest years of life.

Children without exposure to books before age five enter kindergarten on average with a 30-million-word deficit (Hart, B., & Risley, T. R., 2004).

Currently, 6 out of 10 U.S. children fail to read proficiently by grade 4. Research tells us that reading under-achievement by grade 4 results in long-term academic failure.

Raising A Reader helps families with children birth to age eight, develop, practice, and maintain literacy habits necessary for long-term academic and life success.

WHAT WE DO

Our book rotation program for pre-k, kindergarten, grades 1 and 2, brings more than 100 books into a home through a program cycle, trains parents on how to be their kids' first teacher by sharing books and stories, and supports teachers and implementers on how to engage families in early literacy.

The Raising A Reader program contains 2,000+ books in 15 languages. Books are age-appropriate and come in special collections highlighting STEM, financial literacy, and special needs.

RAISING A READER BY THE NUMBERS

Raising A Reader National

15,000,000+ Books

126,000+ Children

290 Partners

2,900 Sites

37 States

RAISING A READER BY THE NUMBERS

in California

202,000+ Books

53,454+ Children

1,000+ Sites

110 Partners

WHY RAISING A READER?

Here in CA we are changing literacy habits and behaviors through our three-pronged mission:

	Indicators
Develop	Use of interactive reading strategies, receiving training, decrease in difficulty in book sharing
Practice	Frequency and duration of book sharing sessions, child interest in reading, development of book sharing routines
Maintain	Library use and increase in the number of books in the home



Findings for schools in varied regions across CA reveal positive changes by families for at least one indicator in every category.

Region	Develop	Practice	Maintain
San Francisco	●	●	●
Inland Empire	●	●	●
Orange County	●	●	●
San Diego	●	○	○
Vesper Lodge	○	○	●
South Bay	●	●	●
Pasadena-Glendale-Burbank	●	○	●
Napa-Sonoma	●	●	●
East Bay	●	○	○

Data not yet available for Sacramento and Monterey County
Based on available school data for more recent year data provided for each region

- Statistically significant positive changes in over 50% of indicators
- Positive findings in at least 50% of indicators
- Positive findings in at least one indicator

ADDITIONAL RESEARCH

Two key studies by Child Trends and the Anne E. Casey Foundation in the San Diego Unified District demonstrated that:

All students participating in Raising A Reader scored statistically significantly higher than those in non-Raising A Reader schools.

42% more Hispanic students participating in Raising A Reader were reading at grade level in the first grade than those students at other schools without Raising A Reader.

PARTNERS



Start or expand an existing Raising A Reader program by contacting Heather Deno at:
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