

What's New in the Central Area

Serving Crook, Deschutes, Grant, Harney,
Jefferson, and Northern Klamath counties

Thank You!

Our incredible community of 373 volunteers spent over 8,000 hours this year reading with kids and helping them choose new books to keep. We're so grateful for the volunteers, donors, educators, and partners who made it possible for us to return to in-person reading, give away thousands of books, and inspire a love of reading in local kids. Thank you for being an important part of SMART Reading!

Corporate and Foundation Sponsors

Many thanks to these businesses and partners for helping us spark joy and opportunity through the magic of a shared book:



James and Shirley Rippey Family Foundation
Prineville Kiwanis Club
Rotary Club of Sunriver



Pictured: Volunteer and student reading together at Crooked River Elementary in Prineville. Photo courtesy of Crooked River Elementary.

Meet Your Local Team

What's your favorite thing about SMART? Here's what the Central Area team has to say:



Jennifer Zardinejad, Area Director
I love seeing kids take home books!



Amy Luther, Senior Program Manager
I love seeing the connections that form between our volunteer Readers and their students. It's a lot of fun to see kids pick out new books they are excited to read and take home!

Community Comes Together for Annual SMART Sip

In February, SMART friends and supporters gathered at Tetherow Resort to celebrate the power of reading and raise funds to keep our local programs strong. Big thanks to everyone who joined us, and to our event sponsors:



The Cohen Family

SELCO Community Credit Union

sponsored book giveaways for Slater Elementary in Burns and all of our sites in Bend. Thank you, SELCO, for your generous support! Kids loved showing off their new books.



2022-23 Local Impact



22 Sites



1,062 Students Served



13,833 Books Given