


Central Area 2022-23 Year-end Report



	Sites	Students Served	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours	Books Given
→ AREA	22	1,062	373	8,066	13,833
→ STATEWIDE	240	23,815	3,914	49,763	218,064
→ SINCE 1992		290,552	144,704	4,585,581	3,475,655

SMART is Back in Schools!



After more than two years, the 2022-23 school year brought a much-anticipated return to in-person reading! Volunteers and students connected through books in our traditional one-on-one model and through Classroom SMART, a popular and effective pandemic adaptation where a volunteer leads interactive read-alouds for a whole classroom.

It also marked our first year as a merged organization with the Children's Book Bank. The Book Bank's sustainable model of collecting, refurbishing and redistributing community-donated books presents exciting opportunities to reach kids in new ways and we've begun exploring opportunities to expand to other communities in the coming years.

In the 2023-24 school year, we expect to reach over 21,000 students, including 1,076 locally. With kids continuing to experience negative ripple effects of the pandemic, we need our community by our side as we continue to spark joy and opportunity through the magic of a shared book.

Pictured: One-to-One SMART reading session at Crooked River Elementary in Prineville.

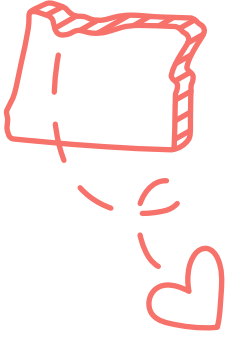


The students who engaged with the SMART program showed great progress in their reading over the course of the year. It was a wonderful thing to witness.

- Principal, Grant County



Program Outcomes



At the end of each year, SMART Reading surveys educators and families to gain insights about SMART's impact on their students. The feedback is overwhelmingly positive, revealing significant benefits for participating children. The data below reflects feedback on our One-to-One SMART model.

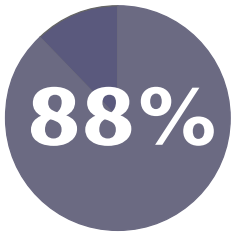
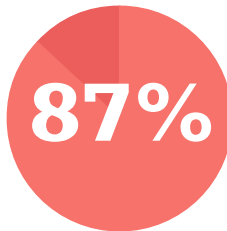


Pictured: One-to-One SMART reading session at Ponderosa Elementary in Bend.

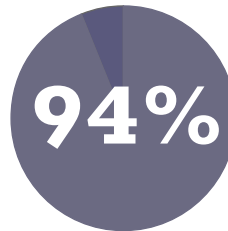


89% of kids showed improvement in reading motivation

87% of kids showed improvement in overall reading performance

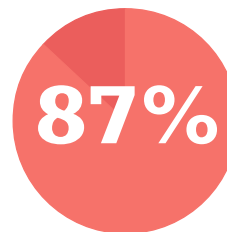


88% of kids showed improved reading enjoyment

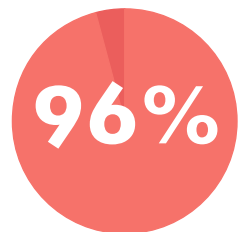


94% of families feel that their child benefited from participating in SMART

87% of kids showed improvement in reading comprehension



96% of educators feel that SMART positively impacted their students and school community



Our kindergarten students participated in the SMART reader program once a week. The student's looked forward to this special time each week and the gift books they were given are invaluable. Thank you for such a special gift... the love of literacy is so important!

- Teacher, Deschutes County

