

Southwest Area 2021-22 Year-end Report



	Sites	Students Served	Volunteers	Volunteer Hours	Books Given
DOUGLAS	15	801	8	332	7,884
SOUTH COAST	12	668	7	265	6,890
STATEWIDE	255	14,453	750	10,379	124,548
SINCE 1992		266,737	147,007	4,545,817	3,257,591

A Year for the Books



The 2021-22 school year was a momentous one for SMART, as we celebrated our 30th anniversary, finalized a merger with The Children’s Book Bank, underwent a leadership transition, and continued to navigate the ever-changing pandemic landscape. Through all of these changes, we’ve remained focused on our mission to spark joy and opportunity through the magic of a shared book. We also prioritized being a flexible partner to our schools, offering a menu of virtual and in-person program models, and continuing to ensure all SMART Reading students received new books and reading resources to keep and share with their families.

In the Southwest Area, our site partners were thrilled to have new, high-interest books for kids to read at home and we were able to implement Classroom SMART (which you’ll read more about) at seven sites, receiving great feedback from teachers and volunteers!

As we look ahead to the 2022-23 school year, we’re anticipating a significant return to in-person service, while continuing to offer pandemic-era services that have proven to be valuable additions to our suite of programs. We’ll also be exploring how to bring the Book Bank’s model of collecting, cleaning and distributing donated books to communities across the state, including in Coos, Curry, and Douglas counties. While we can’t know for certain what the year will hold, we know that kids need the books and shared reading time that SMART provides more than ever, and we’ll be there for them no matter what!

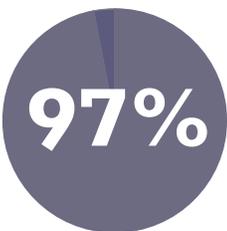
“My kids love SMART—they love getting to pick their own books and take them home. One of my students is Chinese and when she saw culturally accurate books she was so excited to show her friends.” - Southwest Area Teacher

Spotlight on Classroom SMART

After piloting the Classroom SMART model last year at 11 sites around the state, it quickly became our most popular student engagement option this year. Based on research underscoring the importance of reading aloud to kids, this model engages a volunteer to read aloud to an entire classroom either virtually or in-person on a consistent basis. Teachers reported that it was easy to implement and a valuable complement to classroom instruction. Volunteers around the state led 1,400 Classroom SMART sessions during the 2021-22 school year.



Pictured: A SMART Reading volunteer leads a Classroom SMART session.



97% of educators reported that Classroom SMART contributed to improvements in enjoyment of reading.

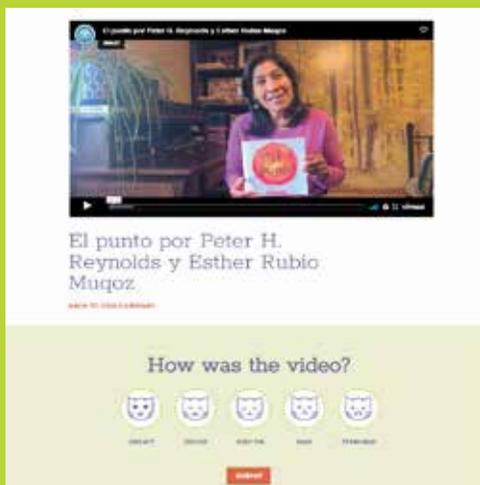
93% of educators reported that Classroom SMART contributed to improvements in reading motivation.



During 97% of Classroom SMART sessions, the class was engaged.

“My students get so excited every time it is SMART day. They look forward to the read-alouds and always want to know if it will be ‘a book day’ when they get a book to take home. Many students don't have any books at home other than those provided by SMART.”

-Teacher



SMART Storytime Expands Access to Read-alouds

All students in SMART have access to SMART Storytime, a library of more than 230 video read-alouds created by SMART volunteers. This continues to be a popular resource for kids participating in any of the program delivery models. This year, kids and families watched over 2,258 read-alouds!

Pictured: Sample of a read-aloud video on the SMART Storytime website.

80%

of SMART Reading kids and families rated SMART Storytime videos good or great.