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.

---

**SMART is Back in Schools!**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Sites</th>
<th>Students Served</th>
<th>Volunteers</th>
<th>Volunteer Hours</th>
<th>Books Given</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>AREA</td>
<td>22</td>
<td>1,062</td>
<td>373</td>
<td>8,066</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>STATEWIDE</td>
<td>240</td>
<td>23,815</td>
<td>3,914</td>
<td>49,763</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>SINCE 1992</td>
<td>290,552</td>
<td>144,704</td>
<td>4,585,581</td>
<td>3,475,655</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

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

- 89% of kids showed improvement in reading motivation
- 87% of kids showed improvement in overall reading performance
- 88% of kids showed improved reading enjoyment
- 87% of kids showed improvement in reading comprehension
- 94% of families feel that their child benefited from participating in SMART
- 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