

What's New in the Northeast Area

Serving Baker, Gilliam, Hood River, Morrow, Umatilla, Wallowa, and Wasco counties

Thank You!

Our incredible community of 94 volunteers spent 1,753 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:

D.E. & Jane Clark Fund of the Oregon Community Foundation

Edna Rogers Harrell Children's Fund with OCF

James and Shirley Rippey Family Foundation



United Way
of the Blue Mountains



United Way
of the Columbia Gorge

WILDHORSE FOUNDATION



Pictured: Volunteer and student reading together at Chenowith Elementary in The Dalles.

Meet Your Local Team

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



Jennifer Zardinejad, Area Director

I love seeing kiddos pick out books to take home and keep!



Kate Drahota, Program Manager

After a decade of work in environmental science, I joined SMART to get back in touch with the social sciences and feel the power of positive human interaction. My favorite part is making supportive connections with our volunteers so they can best serve our mission to spark joy in young people through books.

Volunteer With Us!

We are looking for volunteer Site Coordinators and Readers to join us this fall in the following communities:

- **Boardman:** Neal Early Learning Center
- **Cascade Locks:** Cascade Locks Elementary
- **Hermiston, Pendleton, Pilot Rock, Enterprise:** Multiple Umatilla-Morrow Head Start locations; flexible positions, please inquire with your availability!
- **Hood River:** Westside Elementary and May Street Elementary (Readers only)
- **Odell:** Mid Valley Elementary
- **The Dalles:** Colonel Wright Elementary, Dry Hollow Elementary, and Chenowith Elementary (Readers only)

To sign up or learn more visit www.SMARTReading.org or call 541-436-5457!

2022-23 Local Impact



**18
Sites**



**810
Students Served**



**8,690
Books Given**

Here's what one teacher in the Hood River area had to say about our incredible volunteers: *"The staff and reading volunteers are so wonderful to work with. They share their love of literacy and great books with our first graders. We are so appreciative of their time, guidance and support."*