

Reach Out and Read has expanded from a single Program in 1989 to more than 4,600 Programs in hospitals, health centers, and pediatric practices in all 50 states, Washington, D.C., Puerto Rico, the U.S. Virgin Islands, and U.S. military bases, serving more than one-third of children living in poverty. This year, Reach Out and Read will serve more than 3.9 million children and families nationwide.



“The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children.”

—The Commission on Reading
Becoming a Nation of Readers

“As a pediatrician, I know that at every checkup, I’m helping parents understand how reading aloud will help their children learn and love books and eventually succeed in school. Reach Out and Read is changing children’s lives.”

—Perri Klass, MD
National Medical Director
Reach Out and Read

You Can Help Prepare Young Children to Succeed in School!



Sponsor a child.

Each gift of \$50.00 will enable Reach Out and Read to provide the full five-year program to one more child.



Volunteer in your community.

Reach Out and Read volunteers read to children in waiting rooms and help organize book drives.



Start a Reach Out and Read Program.

Medical providers can apply to the National Center to bring Reach Out and Read to their hospital, health center, or private practice.

The Reach Out and Read website will show you how!

www.reachoutandread.org



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Reach Out and Read A National School Readiness Initiative



reachoutandread.org

The Reach Out and Read Model

Pediatric healthcare providers (including pediatricians, family physicians, and nurse practitioners) are trained in the three-part Reach Out and Read model to promote early literacy and school readiness:

- In the exam room, doctors and nurses speak with parents about the importance of reading aloud to their young children every day, and offer age-appropriate tips.
- The pediatric primary care provider gives every child 6 months through 5 years old a new, developmentally-appropriate children's book to take home and keep.
- In the waiting room, displays, information, and books create a literacy-rich environment. Where possible, volunteer readers engage the children, modeling for parents the pleasures—and techniques—of reading aloud.

Why Reach Out and Read?

The importance of early literacy and early intervention:

- 34% of American children entering kindergarten lack the basic language skills they will need to learn to read.
- Only 48% of parents in the U.S. read to their young children daily.
- Families living in poverty often lack the money to buy new books, and may not have access to libraries.



Reach Out and Read Works

Research shows that Reach Out and Read improves the home literacy environment and developmental outcomes for children growing up in poverty. The children served by Reach Out and Read enter kindergarten better prepared to succeed, with a home library of 10 brand-new children's books and highly engaged parents. Fourteen published research studies indicate that when families participate in Reach Out and Read:

- Parents are four times more likely to read to their children.
- Children show a six-month developmental edge over their peers in the preschool years.
- Children score higher on vocabulary tests and school readiness assessments.

Reach Out and Read prepares America's youngest children to succeed in school by partnering with doctors to prescribe books and encourage families to read together.

Our Supporters

Reach Out and Read is the model of a successful public-private partnership, and is supported by funding from individuals, corporations, and foundations. To complement the private sector investment, we work closely with policy-makers at the federal and state levels to secure public dollars to sustain Reach Out and Read's capacity to deliver books to children growing up at risk for school failure.

Reach Out and Read also partners with a number of medical, literacy, and early childhood advocacy organizations who strongly support our mission of ensuring that every child arrives at kindergarten ready to read and ready to succeed.



Four Star Rating
2005 • 2006 • 2007 • 2008 • 2009



GUIDESTAR
GuideStar Exchange
Valued Partner



The Reach Out and Read model is endorsed by the American Academy of Pediatrics and the National Association of Pediatric Nurse Practitioners.