

FY22 Annual Report

Program Service Accomplishments

OUR PROGRAM MODEL

RIF's programs and resources bring books and literacy resources to children at home, in the classroom, and in the community.



PROGRAMS THAT DRIVE IMPACT

Books for Ownership

Books for Ownership is RIF's flagship reading program that enables children to select new, age-appropriate books to take home and own and is supported with resources for families, educators, and volunteers to create a continuous focus on reading.

Read for Success

Read for Success is a research-backed, supplemental reading program designed to improve reading proficiency and encourage a passion for reading. It is based on research that shows both reading to children and independent reading are key components of literacy development.

Skybrary

Skybrary is RIF's interactive library of digital books and video explorations, many hosted by beloved storyteller LeVar Burton, designed to engage young readers, and foster a love of reading anytime, anywhere. With child-friendly navigation, Skybrary provides children ages 2 - 9 access to nearly 1,000 eBooks with read-to-me narration and interactive animation.

CREATING A CULTURE OF LITERACY

RIF's supplemental reading resources and strategic initiatives support RIF programs and help families, teachers, program sites, and volunteers create an ongoing culture of literacy.

Literacy Central

Literacy Central is an award-winning, digital destination for families, educators, and volunteers with activity calendars, read-aloud videos, and other book resources that support the books children and educators turn to every day. Each book that RIF distributes includes supplemental literacy resources on Literacy Central to help foster a culture of literacy. Learn more at www.RIF.org/Literacy-Central

Literacy Network

Literacy Network is RIF's community of individuals, community partners, program sites, volunteers, and literacy advocates committed to children's literacy. RIF's community shares a like-minded vision that all children deserve the opportunity to become proficient readers. We provide a breadth of literacy resources on our web portal to support local literacy efforts to drive community impact. Learn more at www.RIF.org/Literacy-Network

Rally to Read 100

Rally to Read is RIF's six-month reading engagement initiative to inspire a joy of reading among our nation's young readers. Each year from the beginning of October through the end of March, the initiative unites classrooms and families across the country to pledge to read 100 books, offers monthly themes with featured read-alouds from notable authors and illustrators with companion activities, awards 10,000 books in a sweepstakes, and culminates with an inspiring virtual event on Read Across America Day.

Summer Reading

From May to August, RIF offers a themed summer reading program to help reduce the summer slide. RIF's summer reading program encourages children to continue reading and maintaining valuable literacy skills they acquired throughout the school year. In addition to providing booklists and collections that allow children to visit great destinations from the pages of a good book, RIF also offers fun activities, engaging videos from Skybrary, book club guides available in English and Spanish, plus much more. Learn more at www.RIF.org/Summer

OUR PROGRAMS IN ACTION

RIF's programs and partnerships provide opportunities for children and their families to experience the life-changing impact of reading. Reading is the fundamental building block to all life's essential skills. Throughout the year RIF offers content and resources that produce measurable results. We invite you to experience our impact by hearing how RIF's work makes reading accessible and enjoyable plus brings together communities.



Thomas Jefferson School in Union City, New Jersey: Support student's independent learning with RIF books and reading resources

A partnership to bring reading fun to over 100 first grade students through an employee engagement-led literacy initiative that included Amazon employee volunteers bundling and distributing literacy kits to under-resourced communities.



“Our school community is composed of Pre-K - 4th Grade students in an urban district of NJ. We service special needs, bilingual, and general education populations. Our student body is composed of mostly minorities, predominantly Latino. Our students are full of energy and curiosity. They are always hungry for more knowledge. We are thankful for programs like RIF that give students the chance to expand their learning. RIF is so important to our students and due to the different resources, they provide, students can continue their learning at home. With RIF resources and programs, we are able to provide our students with the ability to explore different learning opportunities. It is also designed in a way that promotes independent learning at home. Reading is the foundation of education. We must foster a love for reading and allow children to get lost in a book.”

- Marilyn Fernandez, Bilingual at-Risk Leader

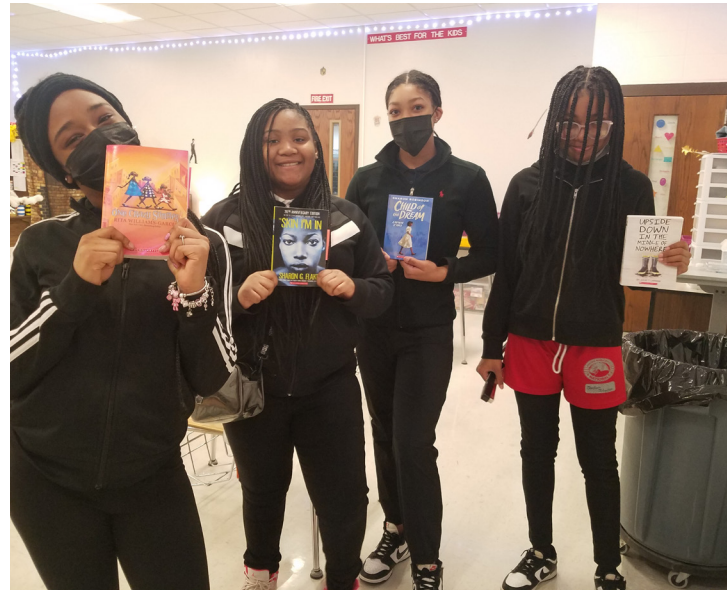


South Euclid Lyndhurst City Schools in Lyndhurst, Ohio: Creating inspired middle school readers through book ownership, providing many students with their first books to take home and own.

Serving as a pilot site for RIF's new middle school family literacy-focused initiative, 600 middle school students benefitted from an enhanced culture of literacy in their school community.

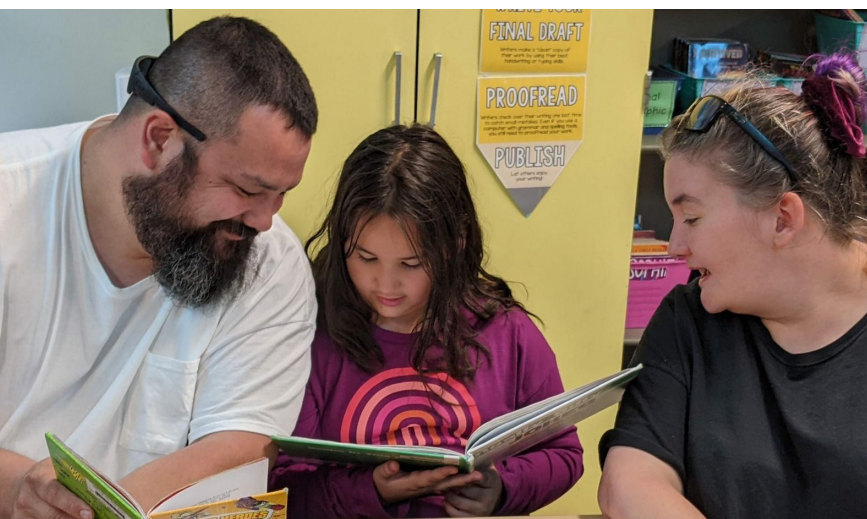
“Our community is an inner ring suburb of Cleveland. We are a Title 1 school and many of our students are on the free/reduced lunch program. Many of our families do not have books in their home and cannot or do not take their children to the public library. Our students were thrilled to be able to have books they could keep. Many of our teachers reported that in the weeks following our RIF book selection days, students were still using the RIF bookbags and carrying their books with them every day. When they completed their work, they pulled out a book and read. It is one thing to read something assigned in class, but when students have their own personal books that they have selected, the ownership creates a connection to reading.”

- Lisa Hubler, Library Media Specialist



Arcadia Elementary School in Spartanburg, South Carolina: This school was a 2022-23 RIF Matching Grant recipient who with RIF support, created a special Books for Ownership Family Literacy Night to involve families. Through this event, they shared the importance of literacy, encouraging their children to read, and increasing their students' at-home reading library.

Each family that attended the event was able to select from over 800 high-quality, engaging books to help extend their impact beyond the time the students are in school, and help nurture a culture of reading at home and as a family.



“The RIF grant allowed us to purchase a total of 800 books for our students here at Arcadia Elementary. Thank you for helping us fund high-quality, engaging texts that will be used to grow at-home libraries. Increasing the number of texts in each students' own reading library helps us extend our classroom impact beyond the time students are in our building, in addition to cultivating a culture of reading at home as a family.”

- Kimberly Terry, Literacy Coach, Arcadia Elementary School, SC