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Students share what they like about Read to Me Project

It is important because it helps there [their] little brain grow and grow into a big smart intelligent brain. I feel happy, content and smart [reading to me little one].

- 5th grader, Valente who reads to her 4 yr.old sibling



Literacy-building Ideas for Students

My favorite of Read to Me Project's list of 9 Best Ways to Read to Young Children is to use "I wonder" statements. "I Wonder" statements feed curiosity and creativity. Teaching students to wonder what else is possible - whether it be applied in science or history - is a good way to get their brains thinking outside the box. Stimulating imagination and wonder in a young child can cultivate the ability for coming up with creative solutions to problems and maybe even creating the next new something that could be a world-changing breakthrough.

During coaching sessions with your students, we tell them, "I wonder" statements don't require a right answer; but we encourage them to ask questions and let their imagination do the rest.

- Maria Lopez, Program Coordinator



SHOW THIS 10 MINUTE VIDEO TO YOUR STUDENTS for a dive into wonder and curiosity through the story of "My Pet Human". It will leave your students inspired to use their imaginations!

Assignment Recommendation: After watching the video, ask your students to write up the ending to "My Pet Human".

Did You Know?

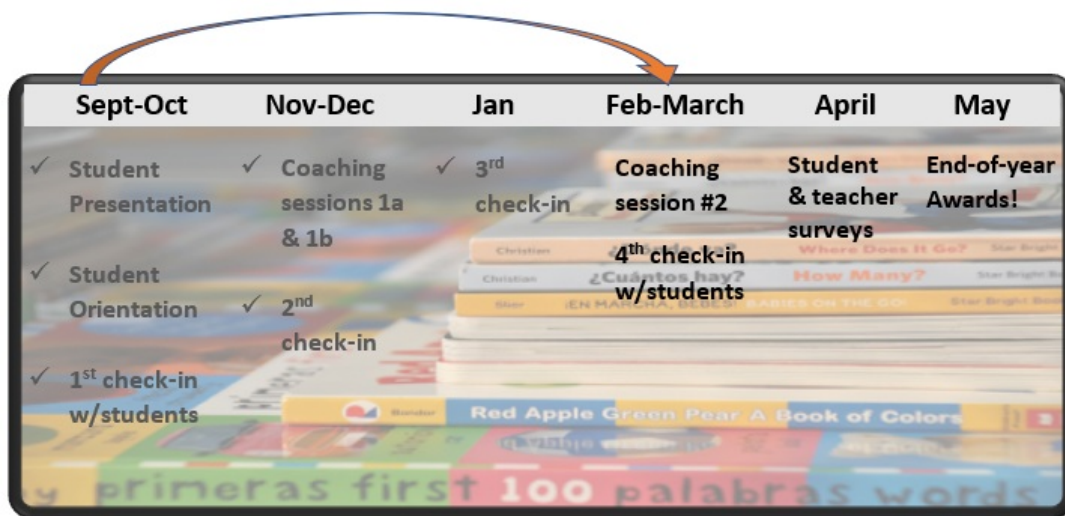
It's not just your students who are benefiting by participating in Read to Me Project. We are in 67 classrooms this year across Monterey County, serving over 1500 students in

Alisal Union School District, Greenfield Union School District, Monterey Peninsula Unified School District, and Salinas City Elementary School District! These students are not only learning about the importance of early literacy and how learning begins from the moment a child is born, but how their own brains are lighting up with new knowledge every day in class with you as their teacher.

This year we launched a new Parent Education program, partnering with Door to Hope, in South Monterey County. So far 21 parents have attended the program and we anticipate at least 45 more will participate in February, including our first Parent Education for Dads series.

Believe it or not! It's almost time to talk about the 2021/2022 school year. Please contact us to discuss providing Read to Me Project to your students next year.

Program Timeline



The Hidden Powers of Reading

The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go. - "I Can Read With My Eyes Shut", Dr. Seuss.

Most book lovers understand how stories can be an escape from the stress around us. The same is true for your students and their little ones. When they cuddle up together, they are entering into new worlds. They may have never seen a giraffe in real life but through reading they could learn all about giraffes. For instance, Dr. Anne Innis Dagg is the founder of giraffe science. She spent years in school reading about giraffes until, at the age of 23, she went to study them in person. While growing up, books gave her the knowledge and ideas of the places she wanted to go.

We know that through books, your students' ideas and interests are expanding. They are being inspired by new possibilities of where they will go someday. Your Read to Me Project students are becoming mentors to their little ones by sharing those ideas and possibilities with them as well!

Read to Me Project stimulates learning and language development through books. We encourage curiosity and a love of learning, while facilitating improved reading skills among the students and laying the foundation for a lifetime of literacy among the little ones. The program aligns with several Common Core Standards such as:

CCSS.ELA.SL.4.1 Engage effectively in a range of collaborative discussions, building on others' ideas and expressing their own clearly.

To see all the standards our program aligns with please go to [How Read to Me Project supports Common Core Standards](#) (password: Rtmp2019)

Staff Recommendation

In honor of Black History Month, Read to Me Project Program Coordinator, Natalie, recommends following [Books of Melanin](#) on Instagram for the latest multicultural books. The books are written by black authors featuring children of color as lovable, relatable characters who discover self-acceptance in wonderful, beautifully illustrated stories.

One such book is, "The Trip of Your Dreams", by Morgan Limo. The story follows a little girl as she uses her imagination to plan her trip around the world.

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[Read to Me Project](#)

