Spring has sprung for the Read to Me Project!



Read to Me Project Community,

There are moments in this work that feel especially meaningful. Recently, our own **Sebastian Eckhaus** (Program Coordinator) was honored for his leadership in strengthening school culture and supporting students and families. It was a proud moment, and a reflection of what becomes possible when trust takes root.

Trust has been a quiet but powerful measure of our work over the past 14 years. It is built over time, in classrooms, in conversations, and in the relationships we form with students, educators, and families. At **Sherwood Elementary in Salinas City Elementary School District**, we have seen that trust grow from an initial partnership last year into something much deeper this year. That growth has led not only to this recognition, but to meaningful expansion, including ten literacy based sessions for caregivers and parents, reaching over 200 adults and families.

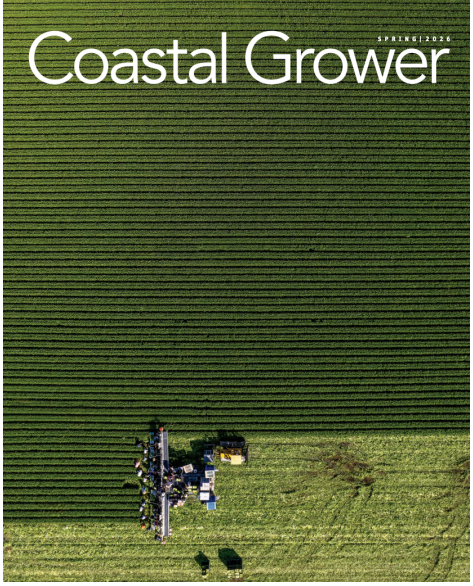
Sebastian (*pictured above third from the left with his mother next to him*) shows up with care, consistency, and a deep belief in young people. We see that same spirit across our classrooms in the moments when students find their voice, build confidence, and experience the joy of reading together. This is how trust blossoms into success!

Over the past few months, that impact has continued to grow. We have expanded into new classrooms and after school spaces, deepened partnerships, and seen thousands of moments of reading and connection across our community. Thank you for being part of this work and for helping it continue to grow with intention and care.

Jason Little | Executive Director

Coastal Grower Magazine Feature

Read to Me Project was recently featured in the Spring edition of **Coastal Grower Magazine**. In the Literacy section on page 20, the article highlights both the heart and the data behind our work, capturing where we have been, where we are, and where we are headed.



The piece carries a meaningful through-line that reflects the early vision and leadership that helped shape our foundation, honors the strength of our current partnerships and growing impact across Monterey County, and points toward an ambitious future rooted in access, equity, and opportunity for all children. It is a powerful reflection of how our work continues to evolve while staying grounded in the relationships and community that make it possible.

We are grateful to be included and proud to see our story shared in a way that connects past, present, and future so clearly. Thank you to Mac McDonald for writing such a wonderful piece and to the Coastal Grower team for featuring our amazing program!

South Monterey County Connections



We recently spent time in King City connecting with local Rotarians and sharing more about our work supporting students and schools across Monterey County. It was a meaningful opportunity to listen, build relationships, and explore how we can expand access to joyful, impactful literacy experiences in communities south of King City. With the support of the Rotary, we are excited about what lies ahead and are beginning to lay the groundwork to bring our program into communities like San Ardo, Bradley and Lockwood.

Join our Board of Directors

As Read to Me Project continues to grow, we are inviting community members to join our Board of Directors and be part of this next chapter. Together, we are working toward a bold goal of supporting upper elementary classrooms across Monterey County to become literacy leaders in their schools and communities.
Read to Me Project Board members:

- Engage in bimonthly meetings
- Help strengthen connections between our work and the broader community
- Play an active role in sustaining and expanding our impact through fundraising and advocacy.

If you are passionate about literacy, leadership, and community, we would love to connect. Please email **jason@readtomeproject.org** to learn more!

Community Schools + CSUMB Partnership



Alisal Union School District Community Schools have partnered with us at Read to Me Project to launch our new **Reader Leader Afterschool Program**. To support this expansion, we have welcomed two students from the CSUMB Service Learning program. Thank you to both Uzo Ebo and Dylan Deeny for choosing Read to Me Project and for sharing all of your passion with our team this Spring semester!

We are excited to continue growing our presence in Salinas and grateful for the opportunities created through this new partnership with CSUMB. To learn more about our service learners, we invite you to visit our website.

Resource for Families

Spark Conversation	Spark Conversation	Spark Conversation
What is something we do every day? Do you enjoy it? **¿Qué es algo que hacemos todos los días? ¿Lo disfrutas?**	What are we doing after this? **¿Qué vamos a hacer después de esto?**	What did you eat today? What was your favorite part? **¿Qué comiste hoy? ¿Cuál fue tu parte favorita?**
Spark Conversation	**Spark Conversation**	**Spark Conversation**
What is something new you want to learn? **¿Qué es algo nuevo que quieres aprender?**	What was something easy today? What was hard? **¿Qué fue algo fácil hoy? ¿Qué fue difícil?**	What did you learn at school today? **¿Qué aprendiste hoy en la escuela?**

In our recent caregiver sessions, we introduced our new **Spark Conversation Cards** to encourage meaningful dialogue between adults and children. These bilingual prompts create simple, everyday moments to talk, listen, and connect . We believe conversation is where literacy begins. When families take time to talk together, children begin to find their voice, build confidence, and feel heard.

Download Here!

Unsubscribe | Update Profile | Constant Contact Data Notice

Read to Me Project | 1121A Baldwin St. | Salinas, CA 93906 US

Constant Contact

Try email & social marketing for free!