



## The Page Coach Impact Report 2019–2020



*Here is the most important part of the day: Unless you were there to see it, you will never be able to understand the looks in the eyes of the kids, the smiles, and true differences that were made to these kids. Many of them had NEVER received a brand new book and for many... this will be their first book in the home. —Jody Davis, Teacher and Coach, Shadow Hills High School, Indio, California*



The Page Coach, Kids Need to Read’s mobile outreach unit providing literary treasure to disadvantaged children, proudly served 44,544 children during the 2019–2020 fiscal year (April 1, 2019–March 31, 2020), distributing inspiring books and literacy programming at a diverse array of schools, libraries, and literacy events in low socioeconomic communities throughout the State of Arizona, as well as two locations in California. This represented an 18% increase over the 36,449 children served by the program the previous year. The number of reading resources provided by the program more than doubled, from 42,865 books valued at \$371,457 in 2018–2019, to 92,922 books valued at \$631,779 during 2019–2020. The average poverty rate of clients served was 90%.

Surveys were sent to agencies that received visits from The Page Coach. The surveys are structured to gauge an increased desire to read after the program. This included interactive presentations, as well as book giveaway events. Of the 27 Page Coach survey respondents, 15 reported 100% increased desire to read after the program. Four reported a 90–95% increased desire to read, while two reported 70–75% and one 50%. Five respondents could not estimate a percentage, but provided positive feedback, such as this: **“Students had to come find me and show me their books. Students said they were excited to be able to read them.”** (LeeAnna Woodward-Frisbie, Kindergarten Teacher, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona)

During the month of March 2020, Kids Need to Read shifted its Page Coach programming from on-site events to the provision of books to be handed out to children during free meal giveaways at schools throughout the Valley. In this way, students continued to have access to books while isolating at home for the remainder of the school year.

Beyond COVID-19 relief work, The Page Coach will continue its appealing approach to helping children discover the **JOY of reading** and the **POWER of a literate mind!**





### Major Funding Contributors

Cox Communications Charities  
ECF of Boeing Arizona  
Embraer Foundation  
Mesa United Way  
Phoenix Suns Charities  
Pi Beta Phi Foundation/Pi Beta Phi Phoenix Alumnae Club/Pi Beta Phi Arizona Beta Chapter  
Thunderbirds Charities

### Major In-kind Contributors

Animal Welfare Institute  
Arizona Renaissance Festival  
Barnes & Noble Chandler Fashion Mall  
Barnes & Noble Desert Ridge Marketplace  
Barnes & Noble Surprise  
Bookmans Entertainment Exchange Mesa  
Elkes Foundation III  
GreaterGood.org  
Highlights for Children  
Houghton Mifflin Harcourt  
Kathy and Jerry Wood Foundation  
PetSmart Charities/PetSmart Christown Spectrum Phoenix

# COVID-19 Relief



*I cannot thank you enough for **EVERYTHING** you have done for us. Please, please know that we appreciate it all—the books, the wonderful gifts, the packing and unpacking, the driving, the organizing!!!* —Karen O’Keefe, ELL Testing Specialist, Mountain View School, Phoenix, Arizona

Nonprofits are often needed most during times of crisis. Kids Need to Read is no exception. Demand for the organization's support increased dramatically following COVID-19 school and library closures. Arizona grant funding was exceedingly helpful in delivering desperately needed reading resources to children via agencies providing pandemic relief services in the Phoenix metropolitan area. Thousands of books were delivered to 19 school meal programs and the entire Tempe Elementary School District during the month of March 2020. In addition to Tempe, campuses served included locations in Phoenix, Mesa, Avondale, Peoria and Surprise, Arizona. This program later expanded to food banks and other community nonprofits as the pandemic kept children isolated into the new fiscal year.

Kids Need to Read will continue to provide family reading relief packages into the foreseeable future. The packages are self-contained, making them easy to distribute, and feature family read-aloud books, activity books, *Highlights* magazines, widely-appealing books for all ages, bilingual ABC music CDs, and bilingual educational reading tips for caregivers—a treasure trove of incentives to invest families in the vital act of reading together.



# Story Quest



*Thank you so much for coming to Edison! The teachers look forward to this every year and the kids always have so much fun. Steven Riley is so entertaining and engaging. The students and the teachers love the books. ... This is the best program for our Kindergartners that we have all year!*  
—Jessica Cobley, Title 1 Specialist, Edison Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona

Inspiring children to discover the joy of reading and the power of a literate mind—this is the impassioned mandate Kids Need to Read follows every day! One of the organization’s most exciting and powerful events of the year is when it hosts Story Quest with author Steven Riley for kindergarten students at area schools, with each student receiving two new hardcover books, a *Highlights* magazine, and stuffed PetSmart Charities reading buddy to help them practice reading aloud. Mr. Riley presents a most highly entertaining and educational story creation program, although the children never realize they are being taught as the author takes them on a journey of creating plot, setting and characters. Working together as a team, the children bring to life an exciting story from their own imaginations.

This program is so popular, Kids Need to Read added an extra day in order to accommodate more locations and reach more children. This took the number of schools served from seven to nine. Located in low socioeconomic areas of Phoenix and Mesa, Arizona, as well as the Tohono O’odham Nation, many vulnerable families living in these communities struggle to make ends meet, much less provide books to their children. Kids Need to Read extended a helping hand to the ultra-excited kindergarten students, delivering priceless story programming and literary treasure to each via the Page Coach. 1,790 children were provided with 5,514 brand new reading resources, including books and *Highlights* magazines given to first grade students, as well.

# Storybook Adventures



*Our patrons really enjoyed the visit and it was an awesome experience for our library and community. —Heather Hatcher, Library Information Specialist, Show Low Public Library, Show Low, AZ*

Immersing children into the world of stories is the magic of Kids Need to Read's Storybook Adventures. Sharing a passion for reading is contagious! Add tables piled high with books and other literacy gifts to the programming excitement and suddenly the joy and power of reading is passed on to the children. Books are so clearly vital, not only as a means to learn to read but as a tool for children to dream and to accomplish those dreams. Storybook Adventures throws open the door for each child to begin the process of dreaming for their bright future.

Schools and libraries served with onsite Storybook Adventures events included:

- Glendale: Bayer Private School
- Mesa Public Schools: Edison, Guerrero and Lowell Elementary Schools
- Mesa: Bookmans Entertainment Exchange
- Navajo Nation: Indian Wells Elementary School
- Phoenix area schools: J. B. Sutton Elementary, Mountain View School, and Palomino Primary School
- Phoenix: Phoenix Fan Fusion
- Show Low: Show Low Public Library
- Tohono O'odham Nation: Indian Oasis Elementary School-Primary Campus



# Book Giveaway Events



*This was an incredibly uplifting experience! I hope we have the opportunity to work with this organization again. Thanks to the ladies who came out to help! It was awesome!*

—Nicole Shamblin, Principal, Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona

School-wide book giveaways! Family literacy nights! STEM nights! Fall carnivals! Parent meetings! Community events! Food bank events! Holiday events! The Page Coach travels throughout Arizona, and even into surrounding states, to set up major book giveaway events for kids. What a fantastic opportunity to inspire children and families to read! During most giveaways, children (or parents) are able to select both a fiction and nonfiction book of their choice, as well as receive a Highlights magazine, and either a stuffed reading buddy or a third book, depending upon the age of the children. Sometimes the kids get to spin the Wheel of Literacy for reading-related prizes. The excitement at these events is always incredibly palpable!

Kids Need to Read rolled with the Page Coach to 30 locations in Arizona and 2 in California to host massive book giveaway events, in addition to the Story Quest and Storybook Adventures events mentioned previously. Thousands of books were also delivered to 25 schools and other agencies for crucially important needs, not including COVID relief already acknowledged.

It is a pleasure to see children reveling in the written word. The real power of the Page Coach is its ability to travel directly to the children, especially those living in rural and low socioeconomic areas often overlooked by other literacy programs. This is where we can help to close the literacy gap between high- and low-income children—right there among the children!



# Highlights, Books and Buddies

*This is such a great program! Our students do not usually have new books at home. This program gives them the pride of ownership and helps teach them the importance of reading books at home. The kindergartners love the reading buddies!* —Julie Kautenburger, Reading Specialist, Palomino Primary School, Phoenix, Arizona

In addition to the many individuals who donate books and handmade reading buddies to Kids Need to Read, several corporate benefactors hold annual book-raisers and buddy-raisers, contributing desperately needed reading resources to enhance the quality and quantity of the Page Coach's gifts to children. Among these much-appreciated resource-raising partners are:



**Arizona Renaissance Festival**  
2,408 books

**Barnes & Noble Chandler Fashion Mall**  
3,311 books

**Barnes & Noble Desert Ridge Marketplace**  
3,246 books

**Barnes & Noble Surprise**  
2,155 books

**Bookmans Entertainment Exchange Mesa**  
1,205 books



*One teacher told me that her students said "This is the best Friday ever!" I was impressed with the quality of the books and the overall organization for the day. Everything went smoothly and the materials the students received were engaging and appropriate. Thank you for bringing The Page Coach all the way to our desert!* — Lynda Cordova, Instructional Coach, Oliphant Elementary School, Indio, California





**Highlights for Children** donated over 58,709 magazines and activity books as part of their annual #GivingTuesday campaign benefiting Kids Need to Read. These resources have a wide-ranging appeal and provide exceptional content. They are invaluable to enticing the most reluctant of readers to open up the cover and enter the magical world of reading.

*“... from students that received the AMAZING puzzle books and magazines from Highlights.... Thank you so much, our school and students are LOVING the materials you gave us!”* —Megan Walls, Assistant Principal of School Operations, Imagine Schools Camelback, Phoenix, Arizona



**PetSmart Christown Spectrum Phoenix**, in conjunction with **PetSmart Charities**, raised 973 stuffed reading buddies. They also called other area stores to get 609 additional buddies donated to Kids Need to Read by the North Phoenix and Glendale locations, for a total of 1,582 buddies. The irresistible pals serve as comforting read aloud companions for the children we serve, especially those whose caregivers have difficulties helping with at-home reading due to burdensome schedules, language barriers, or other challenges.

*“Thank you so much for the generous book donation and reading buddies for the special needs preschoolers at Mountain View Elem. School! The children*

*were so excited and many brought their books and buddies back the next day.”* —Rebecca Itkoe, Special Needs Preschool Teacher, Mountain View School, Phoenix, Arizona



# Arizona Agencies Served

## Avondale

Imagine Schools Avondale

## Cave Creek

Foothills Food Bank

## El Mirage

Valley View Community Food Bank

## Ganado, Navajo Nation

Western National Parks Association

## Glendale

Bayer Private School

## Indian Wells, Navajo Nation

Indian Wells Elementary School

## Mesa

Adams Elementary School  
Arizona Museum of Natural History  
Brinton Elementary School  
Eagle Pathway  
Edison Elementary School  
Eisenhower Center for Innovation  
Field Elementary School  
Franklin West Elementary School  
Guerrero Elementary School  
Holmes Elementary School  
i.d.e.a. Museum  
Imagine Schools East Mesa  
Kerr Elementary School  
Lowell Elementary School  
Lutheran Social Services of the SW  
Mesa Public Library  
Mesa United Way  
Our Savior's Lutheran Church  
Porter Elementary School  
Roosevelt Elementary School  
Sousa Elementary School  
Stevenson Elementary School  
Whitman Elementary School





**Parker**

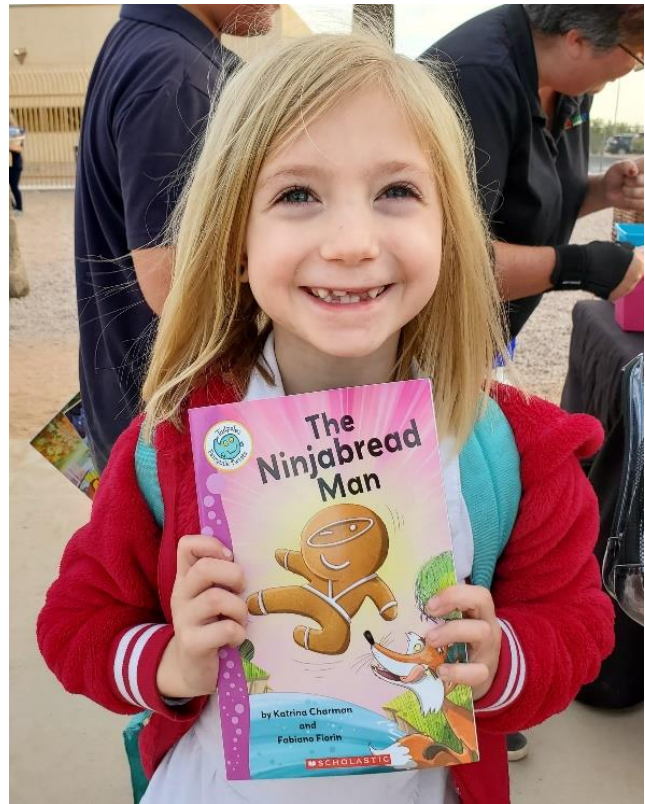
Colorado River Indian Tribes Head Start

**Peoria**

Sky View Elementary School

**Phoenix**

Arizona Helping Hands  
Assistance League of Phoenix  
Brunson-Lee Elementary School  
Cactus Wren Head Start  
City of Phoenix Parks and Recreation  
Crestview Preparatory School  
Faith Christian Center  
Imagine Schools Cortez Park  
J. B. Sutton Elementary School  
Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest  
Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School  
Mountain View School  
Nevitt Elementary School  
Palomino Primary School  
Pendergast Elementary School District  
V. H. Lassen Elementary School  
Wilson Elementary School



**San Tan Valley**

Combs Traditional Academy

**Sells, Tohono O’odham Nation**

Indian Oasis Elementary-Intermediate  
Indian Oasis Elementary-Primary

**Show Low**

Show Low Public Library

**Surprise**

Altrusa of the West Valley  
A Mighty Change of Heart  
Imagine Prep Surprise

**Tempe**

Tempe Elementary School District No. 3

**Tolleson**

Backpacks 4 Kids AZ



# California Agencies Served



**Indio**  
Oliphant Elementary  
School/Shadow Hills High  
School

*“This event went better than I imagined. The Page Coach showed up early and everything was ready to go when my group of high school wrestlers showed up to help with the event. “Kids Need to Read” went above and beyond by giving the youngest kids a stuffed animal and even brought books for my wrestlers.”*  
—Jody Davis, Teacher and Coach, Shadow Hills High School, Indio, California



**San Gabriel**  
San Gabriel Educational  
Foundation

*“We cannot begin to thank you enough for your generous support of our community & our students. Your investment in our efforts is long lasting & impactful on so many levels.”*  
—SEF Board of Directors, San Gabriel Educational Foundation, San Gabriel, California



# The Page Coach 2019–2020 Survey Results and Testimonials



[Book Giveaway Event] *Because we have had Page Coach book give-aways in the past, many students asked me when our first book give-away would be. They cannot wait to pick out books of their own and cannot wait to take them home. This year their new books were the source of conversations throughout the day, especially in our Literacy Lab groups. The students told teachers that they were going to go home right after school to read and to draw! These books [will] be treasured and cherished for the entire year! THANK YOU!!!!*

—Karen O’Keefe, ELL Testing Specialist, Mountain View School, Phoenix, Arizona

*100% showed increased desire to read after the program (100% of our students were so anxious to read the books they received! We had students talking about the books throughout the day who could not wait to read and draw!)*

[Book Giveaway Event] *This was an incredibly uplifting experience! I hope we have the opportunity to work with this organization again. Thanks to the ladies who came out to help! It was awesome!*

—Nicole Shamblin, Principal, Martin Luther King Jr. Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona  
90% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Storybook Adventures/Grow Your Library] *Our patrons really enjoyed the visit and it was an awesome experience for our library and community. Thank you for letting me help and be a part of the day.*

—Heather Hatcher, Library Information Specialist, Show Low Public Library, Show Low, AZ  
95% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Book Giveaway Event] *One teacher told me that her students said "This is the best Friday ever!" I was impressed with the quality of the books and the overall organization for the day. Everything went smoothly and the materials the students received were engaging and appropriate. Thank you for bringing The Page Coach all the way to our desert! We would love to have you again in the future.*

—Lynda Cordova, Instructional Coach, Oliphant Elementary School, Indio, California  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program (*All of them!*)

[Book Giveaway Event] *This event went better than I imagined. The Page Coach showed up early and everything was ready to go when my group of high school wrestlers showed up to help with the event. "Kids Need to Read" went above and beyond by giving the youngest kids a stuffed animal and even brought books for my wrestlers.*

*Here is the most important part of the day: Unless you were there to see it, you will never be able to understand the looks in the eyes of the kids, the smiles, and true differences that were made to these kids. Many of them had NEVER received a brand new book and for many... this will be their first book in the home.*

*Not only were the elementary kids impacted, but it made a positive difference in my wrestlers that took part in reading to them. Seeing how these young kids looked up to them gave them a bigger sense of self and it really made a difference.*

*Thanks again! You have all made an impact!!!!*

—Jody Davis, Teacher and Coach, Shadow Hills High School, Indio, California  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Book Giveaway Event] *Literacy is one of the areas that our program is always in search of improving and promoting to the Head Start families. The Head Start program is very thankful to your organization for donating wonder[ful] books that parents and families can read to their children.*

—Carolina Martinez, Bilingual Family Service Advocate, Colorado River Indian Tribes Head Start, Parker, Arizona  
Percentage unknown



[Story Quest] *Thank you so much for coming to Edison! The teachers look forward to this every year and the kids always have so much fun. Steven Riley is so entertaining and engaging. The students and the teachers love the books. Thanks again!*

—Jessica Cobby, Title 1 Specialist, Edison Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona

100% showed increased desire to read after the program (*This is the best program for our Kindergartners that we have all year!*)

[Book Giveaway Event: School Carnival] *The kids absolutely loved it! IT was a hit at our Fall Carnival! They all were talking about it. Thanks so much for coming out. My own children were so over the moon about getting books and prizes!*

—Megan Cox, Second Grade Teacher/NEHS Adviser, Combs Traditional Academy, San Tan, Arizona

75% showed increased desire to read after the program (*It was great!*)

[Story Quest] *The program was great. The kids were really excited about meeting Steve and he did an amazing job keeping the kids engaged!*

—Krystina Scotto, Assistant Principal, Nevitt Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona

100% showed increased desire to read after the program (*They were all excited to read the books they received!*)

[Story Quest] *Our teachers look forward to your visit each year. Steven Riley is outstanding with the students and they are engaged from the beginning to the end of their time with him. Many of our students do not have any books at home and their eyes light up when they receive books from your organization. Thank you so much for all you do for our school!*

—Jackie Arzt, Title I Specialist, Lowell Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona

100% showed increased desire to read after the program (100% of our students were very excited to receive books to take home.)

[Story Quest] *This is such a great program! Our students do not usually have new books at home. This program gives them the pride of ownership and helps teach them the importance of reading books at home. The kindergartners love the reading buddies!*

—Julie Kautenburger, Reading Specialist, Palomino Primary School, Phoenix, Arizona

100% showed increased desire to read after the program (*All of the students LOVED getting new books and a reading buddy. When I walk through the classrooms afterwards, they were all reading their new books. Such a great thing!*)

[Story Quest] *It is an amazing experience for our children that do not always get to have these experiences or access to new and exciting books. They look forward to the visit each year and remember every visit from years prior.*

—Gabriela Medina, Reading Interventionist, Indian Oasis Elementary School, Sells, Arizona, Tohono O'odham Nation

100% showed increased desire to read after the program (*All students were excited to read their books. That day during lunch time the students brought their books with them and were reading in the cafeteria while they ate lunch.*)

[Story Quest] *Our students are so excited to have their own books!*

—Gloria Weddle, Second Grade Teacher, Brunson-Lee Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Story Quest] *Thank you for helping us promote literacy and getting our students engaged and excited about reading.*

—Leticia Castro, Principal, Brunson-Lee Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Story Quest] *Here at Sutton we are so grateful to Steve Riley and the program Kids Need to READ for donating your precious time, money, and the love for reading with our students. It amazes me how much you give to our students and our community. From the bottom of our hearts...THANK YOU AND GOD BLESS!*

—Della Guzman, Kindergarten Teacher, J. B. Sutton Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program (*Especially with their "reading" buddy stuffed animal...they all wanted to read/look at their books and talk about it to each other*)

[Book Giveaway Event] *We are always so appreciative and excited to receive these books! What an amazing program! Thank you for thinking of us and our kids are so fortunate to have this opportunity to receive these books!*

—Krystina Scotto, Assistant Principal, Nevitt Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Book Giveaway Event: STEM Night] *You all were amazing and we are so grateful that you came! I sure hope we can have you come to our STEM Night next year?*

—Kathy Ray, Principal, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona  
Percentage unknown (*I am not sure, but many students proudly showed me their book and/or prizes and wanted me to take their pictures with their new book!!*)

[Book Giveaway Event: STEM Night] *Thank you so much for the books you brought for our students! My own children are always excited to pick out a new book and they were thrilled with the choices you had to offer! The reading levels were appropriate for each age group and the subjects were very engaging! As an Instructional Aide in our Reading Lab, I work with struggling readers. I have found that many of them do not have reading material at home to practice their reading skills. These types of resources help support our students in their learning so they can succeed in the classroom. We are so appreciative!*

—Sherrada Matthews, Title I Instructional Aide, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona  
90% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Book Giveaway Event: STEM Night] *The parents kept saying this was so generous. The kids were extremely excited. Thank you for giving books that aligned with STEM to remind kids that ALL subject areas are a part of books!*

—Katherine Burgess, Title 1 School Improvement Specialist, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona

90% showed increased desire to read after the program (*All who received the book[s] were thrilled.*)



[Book Giveaway Event: STEM Night] *Great variety and quality of books.*  
—Cassie Plote, Fifth Grade Teacher, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona  
70% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Book Giveaway Event: STEM Night] *Thank you for the books!*  
—Brandi Arthur, Emotional Disturbance Instructional Assistant, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona  
Percentage unknown (*Not sure but mine started reading her butterfly book at the function!*)

[Book Giveaway Event: STEM Night] *I was so excited to learn about your organization. Everyone was so excited about reading. My students were excited to receive new books!*  
—Carolina Siulok, Fifth/Sixth Emotional Disturbance Teacher, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Book Giveaway Event: STEM Night] *Students had to come find me and show me their books. Students said they were excited to be able to read them.*  
—LeeAnna Woodward-Frisbie, Kindergarten Teacher, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona  
Percentage unknown

[Book Giveaway Event: STEM Night] *Great resource for our community that has over 70% of the students receiving free/reduced lunches. Our community will directly benefit from this program.*  
—Carmen Sorce, Sixth Grade Teacher, Porter Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona  
50% showed increased desire to read after the program

[Book Giveaway Event: Champions Are Readers Literacy Program and Fraternity Day of Service] *We always love working with Kids Need to Read! Pi Beta Phi has a very special relationship with KNTR and we always love partnering with you on our literacy events. Looking forward to many more great times together putting new books in the hands of excited children.*  
—Heather Miller, Volunteer, Pi Beta Phi Phoenix Alumnae Club, Phoenix, Arizona  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program (*They were all super excited to receive new books!*)

[Book Giveaway Event: Champions Are Readers Literacy Program and Fraternity Day of Service] *Thank you for being a part of Pi Phi's CAR and FDS events. It is always a pleasure to work with you!! Thank you for your generosity!!*  
—Gioia Ryan, Co-Chair Champions Are Readers, Pi Beta Phi Phoenix Alumnae Club, Phoenix  
Percentage unknown (*Not sure, but we had great feedback from the teachers*)

[Book Giveaway Event] *Thank you so much for visiting Edison again this year! Our students are always so excited to receive the books you bring.*  
—Jessica Cobby, Title 1 Specialist, Edison Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona  
100% showed increased desire to read after the program

## **Testimonials received via mail/email:**

[COVID-19 Relief] *I cannot thank you enough for EVERYTHING you have done for us. Please, please know that we appreciate it all—the books, the wonderful gifts, the packing and unpacking, the driving, the organizing!!!*

—Karen O’Keefe, ELL Testing Specialist, Mountain View School, Phoenix, Arizona

[COVID-19 Relief] *Thank you! Kids and families were so excited to get these today. You guys rock!*

—Alex Macdonald, Principal, Edison Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona

[Literacy Program Support/Book Giveaway] *Oh My GOODNESS!!! Thank you so much! This was so much more than I was expecting and my kids are going to love them. You guys are truly the best!!!*

—Jennifer Montree, Head Start Teacher, Cactus Wren Elementary School, Phoenix, Arizona

[District-wide Book Giveaway Event] *We cannot begin to thank you enough for your generous support of our community & our students. Your investment in our efforts is long lasting & impactful on so many levels.*

—SEF Board of Directors, San Gabriel Educational Foundation, San Gabriel, California

[Book Giveaway Event] *Everything was absolutely fantastic! We loved the storytime and the Reading Buddies! The kids loved it as well! And of course all of the glorious books which really amped up our collection! This is a remarkable thing that you do for public libraries! We are so appreciative of your efforts and the support you give to libraries across the country, especially those of us who are smaller with smaller budgets! Thank you so much!*

—Lisa Lewis, Library Services Manager, Show Low Public Library, Show Low, Arizona

[Book Giveaway Event] *I was very impressed with how efficient and well put together your program was. I felt that all members that came represented were fun, engaging and very professional. I do not have any recommendations for improvement. It was wonderful. I really liked that the patrons and participants were able to have an active part in helping their library. I know that it also made the children and participants feel like and know that they too can make a difference and share. I know that our library, the community and I are very grateful for the opportunity to [have] participated in this wonderful program. We thank you and had a wonderful time working with everyone who helps make programs like this possible for our smaller communities.*

—Heather Hatcher, Library Information Specialist, Show Low Public Library, Show Low, AZ

[Book Giveaway Event] *We can’t thank you enough for your kind donation to our students of Mountain View. You truly have no idea how much we appreciate this. It truly “takes a village” to do what’s right for our kids today & this is beyond supportive & so needed. Thanks for your dedication to our Hawk family!*

—Jill Sarraino, Principal, Shalini McCarthy and Emily Hill, Assistant Principals, Mountain View School, Phoenix, Arizona

[Book Giveaway Event] *Thank you so much for the generous book donation and reading buddies for the special needs preschoolers at Mountain View Elem. School! The children were so excited and many brought their books and buddies back the next day. Thank you for your support!*

—Rebecca Itkoe, Special Needs Preschool Teacher, Mountain View School, Phoenix, Arizona

[Holiday Book Giveaway Event] *A very special thank you for coming to our Holiday party at the Holland Center. ... Our kids and families [were] so grateful for the beautiful books and all the attention you paid to each person. ... What a thrill to get books and toys before they even entered the party! ... You have helped make the season a bit brighter for the community.*

—Linda McCabe, Board of Directors, Foothills Food Bank, Cave Creek, Arizona

[Book Giveaway Event] *Thank you again for coming out to our Family Reading night, the students loved the books and the spin game was a hit! Thank you so much for the book donation to our library, I can't wait to catalog them and get them on our shelves for check out.*

—Bobbi Torres, Resource Center Specialist, Lowell Elementary School, Mesa, Arizona

[Book Giveaway Event] *Thank you for the amazing books and reading buddies.*

—Miss Gover, Kindergarten Teacher, Indian Wells Elementary, Indian Wells, Arizona, Navajo Nation

### **From third grade students of Mountain View School, Phoenix, Arizona [Book Giveaway Event]:**

*I am so happy I read all the time! Bruiser's Game Day Rules I liked because it said be kind with people. It's ok if is not your friend. Be kind! I like that.*

*Thank you so much for giving all students in Mountain View such beautiful books. You were so kind to do this for us and it is helping my comprehension skills.*

*[The donation of books] helps me read more and more. And sometimes I read to my dogs But they don't listen to me.*

*I am reading these books to my Family as often as possible. ... It is also building my vocabulary, as I learn the meaning of new words.*

*We have really enjoyed reading [the books] and Love to build a library of these books at our homes. ... My family wants to thank you too.*

*Thank you so much for the free books. I Love Books. I liked the to read. I like adventure. The magazine had science. I tried rubbing a balloon in my hair and my hair went up. It was fun. I like the coloring book too. My favorite part was drawing Gidzilla.*

*We need books because we love to read books. They are fun to read. They can help you read better and become smart. I Love the books! They are good! ... I like to read to my brother and sister. I Love to read to my family. It is fun.*

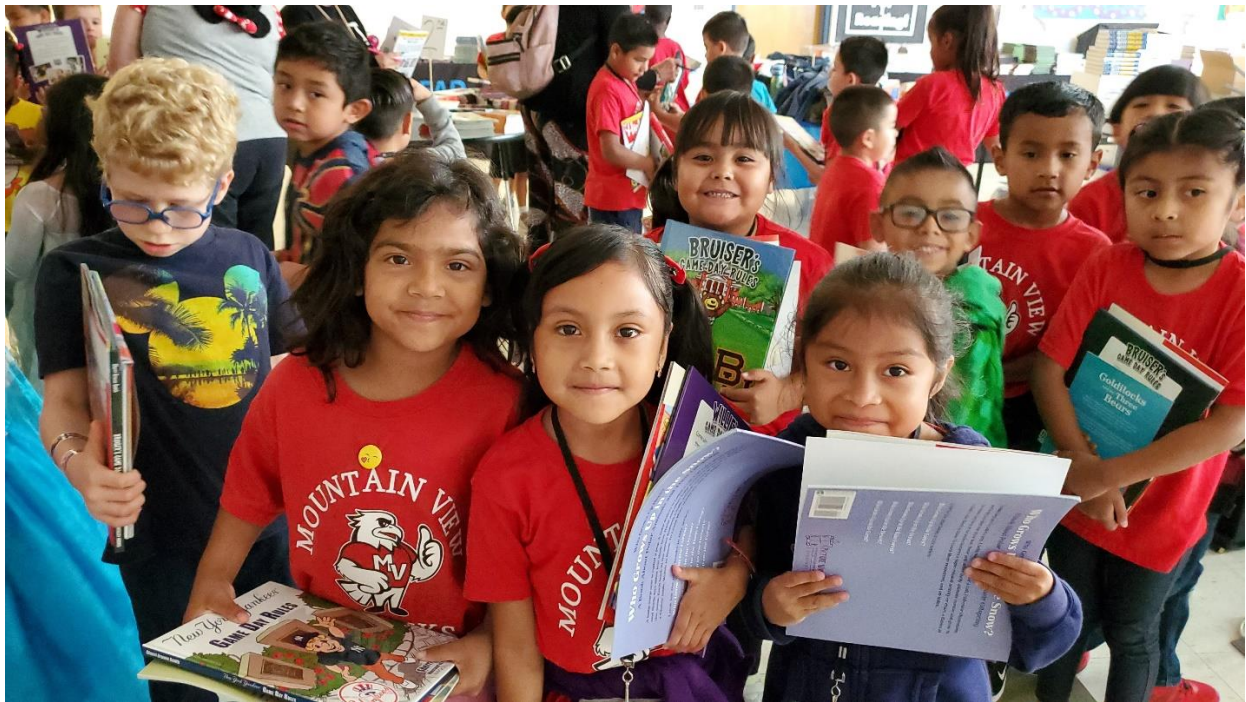


# KIDS NEED TO READ

Inspiring Imagination

[WWW.KIDSNEEDTOREAD.ORG](http://WWW.KIDSNEEDTOREAD.ORG)

## The Page Coach



Helping children to discover the joy of reading  
and the power of a literate mind!