



## **Team Read Program:**

**Team Read** is a volunteer tutoring program that helps second graders improve their sight word vocabulary. By learning essential sight words, a student's reading fluency greatly increases as they are taught to read half or more of the words that they encounter in a quick manner. This program makes an impact on the lives of children, teachers and families and makes a difference in communities by focusing on these second grade literacy skills.

# **Why Second Grade?**

Research shows that second grade is a critical year for students, especially when it comes to developing reading skills. After second grade, students transition from "learning to read" to "reading to learn." In the third grade, if a student isn't reading proficiently, he/she may find it difficult to learn other subjects, fall behind, and become discouraged. Students who aren't reading proficiently by the third grade are also four times more likely to leave school without graduating, compared to proficient readers.

# **Program Description**:

The *Team Read* volunteer tutoring program consists of:

- Matching all second graders at a specific school with a one-on-one volunteer tutor, called a coach.
- The tutoring session focuses on teaching sight words in a 30-minute session.
- This program provides a successful intervention for 2<sup>nd</sup> graders
- Research has proven that interventions for struggling readers after 3<sup>rd</sup> grade are seldom as effective as those in the early years.

# **Time Requirements:**

- Volunteers tutor for one hour each week (two 30-minute sessions) so each coach has two students
- All volunteer coaches attend a one and one-half hour training workshop
- Coaches commit to tutoring once a week from October through April
- A fingerprint background check is required to participate (paid for by SCS)

#### **Benefits:**

### *Team Read* volunteers help:

- Improve student achievement
- Build student confidence and pride in academic accomplishment
- Improve student's attitude toward school
- Provide a positive role model

For more information on how you can help, contact FACE at (901) 416-7600.