



Read Aloud Delaware

Ensuring each preschool child in Delaware is regularly read to one-on-one to help prevent illiteracy

Incorporated in 1984, Read Aloud Delaware remains Delaware's only state-wide organization dedicated to reading one-on-one to children in preschools, childcare centers, and kindergartens. Reading aloud to children, increases vocabulary, stimulates imaginations, augments attention spans, and encourages a love of books and a desire to become a reader, Read Aloud Delaware helps set children on the road of literary and life success.



Read Aloud Delaware
Serving Delaware
since 1984

Our volunteer readers are welcomed by a room full of excited children whenever they enter. With hands raised as high as they will reach, the students exclaim, "Pick me, pick me!"

How can we help you?

- ◆ Volunteer readers will be assigned to a specific class at your center. They will read once a week to one student at a time.
- ◆ Read Aloud Delaware offers special events such as visits from story tellers, Mother Goose, and soon, Pete the Cat and Llama Llama!
- ◆ We offer a Parent Empowerment Program, Lena Start, for parents of children birth to three to help parents recognize opportunities to add more conversations and reading into daily routines.
- ◆ We can provide gently used children's books to classrooms or children that need them.

- ◆ 11% of adults in Delaware are functionally illiterate and cannot read or write well enough to perform basic everyday tasks. We strive to eradicate illiteracy before it is established. Delawareonline.com
- ◆ There is no time in life when the brain develops more rapidly than during the first five years of life and communication is key to this growth. Reading aloud helps a child's brain develop in many positive ways. Lena.org
- ◆ The average middle-class child receives 1,000 to 1,700 hours of one-on-one reading before starting school. The average low-income child only receives 25 hours of one-on-one reading. Jeff McQuillan: The Literacy Crisis: False Claims. Real Solutions
- ◆ Reading aloud 20 minutes a day allows children to hear 1,800,000 words per year and score in the 90th percentile on standardized tests. Scholastic.com
- ◆ Weak literacy skills increase the likelihood of youth pregnancy, high school drop outs, unemployment, and dependency on public assistance. Worldliteracyfoundation.org

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Why Read Aloud