“Books aren’t made of pages and words. They’re made of hopes, dreams, and possibilities.”

Developing literacy at a young age gives children the tools they need, not only to be successful in school, but in their lives. ieReads is dedicated to promoting early grade literacy in the I.E. through volunteerism.

NEED:

69% of 3rd graders in our region are not reading at grade level.

Why is this happening?

- Lack of 1-1 reading time
- Lack of access to text
- Lack of access to vocabulary

Students who struggle to read are 4 times as likely to drop out of high school and more likely than their peers to engage with the juvenile court system.

IMPACT:

We hope to demonstrate positive results in creating an excitement and love of reading for children and engaging more community volunteers in the work of improving childhood literacy.

HOW CAN YOU HELP ieREADS?

1 Give: You can provide children with the tools they need to learn to read.
   - Provide a donation or sponsorship
   - Donate books to local children in need
   - Host an ieReads book drive

2 Volunteer: It’s rewarding and fun!
   - Reading with children is a simple way to engage with children in need in your community.

Before 3rd grade, we learn to read. After 3rd grade, we read to learn. If a child does not read at grade level, they will continue to struggle throughout their education.

PROGRAM COMPONENTS:

- Identify and promote existing volunteer reading opportunities with partners like Think Together and Footsteps to Brilliance.
- Work alongside nonprofits such as Pomona Hope, Foothill Family Shelter, Boys & Girls Club, and Hope Through Housing to establish new volunteer reading opportunities and story time events.
- Work with community groups/volunteers to host book drives.
- Recruit and match volunteers for reading special events including story time events, literacy fairs, book drives, and Read Across America Day.