



READ TO ME PROGRAMS

In 2007, 61 public libraries throughout the state participated in Jump Start, First Book, and/or Child Care Reads under the Read to Me umbrella. The target for 2008 is 75 libraries.



Research shows that children who have books at home do better in school.

READ TO ME BUDGET REQUEST

About \$150,000 is allocated each year to Read to Me projects under the Library Services Technology Act.

This budget request would supplement current grant funding under the Library Services and Technology Act to reach more kids.

The target audience for Read to Me is Idaho children ages birth through eight and their families, with emphasis on those at risk for low reading skills.

Fiscal Year	Request Amount
2009	\$ 335,500.00
2010	<u>\$ 834,000.00</u>
Total	\$1,169,500.00

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READ TO ME ENHANCEMENT

Consistent with the Idaho Commission for Library's mission, **To assist libraries to build their capacity to better serve their clientele**, the 2009 budget request was developed to significantly expand Read to Me over a two-year period.

The intended outcomes of this expansion are:

1. More Idaho children will be ready to read when they begin kindergarten.
2. More Idaho early elementary children will maintain or increase their reading skill over the summer.

Get a Jump Start on Reading @ Your Library

Participating librarians provide early literacy information and free books to children and their families during kindergarten registration.

- In 2007, 40 public libraries worked with 72 elementary schools to reach 5,500 pre-K children and their families at kindergarten registration.

If the budget request is approved, funding would allow additional public libraries and schools to reach 11,000 children in FY09 and 22,000 in FY10.

First Book

Designed to give children from low-income families the opportunity to read and own their first new books, libraries work with a community partner – a school or day care for example – to identify at-risk children. The program provides a book a month for a year for

each participating child and workshops for their parents on family literacy.

In addition to the 12 books each child receives, another goal is to provide library cards and contact with librarians for at-risk children.

- Since 1997, 51 libraries have given 65,214 books to 6,250 at-risk children through First Book.

If the budget request is approved, the program would expand from eight public libraries serving 972 children in 2007 to additional public and school libraries reaching 1,500 children in FY09 and 5,000 in FY10.

Summer Reading

Librarians may choose one or all the ICFL programs to encourage children to read over the summer. Since 2004 the Commission has ramped up support for local libraries who partner with schools and community organizations to increase participation.

- In 2007, 44,600 children participated in 116 communities. This was a 62 percent increase since 2004 with a total participation of 27,610.

Mini-Grants

State dollars would also establish literacy outreach mini-grants for public libraries to work with community partners to implement best practices in library service to children. The mini grants would be awarded to 30 libraries in FY09 and 70 in FY10.



2009 Read to Me Programs

Through Read to Me, the Idaho Commission for Libraries helps strengthen the traditional role of public libraries in working with parents, schools, and other community partners to help young kids become good readers.

Read to Me provides information, training, technical assistance, and resources for Idaho libraries and their community partners.

A PROJECT OF THE IDAHO COMMISSION FOR LIBRARIES



Jump Start Kindergarten Registration

Librarians encourage parents of children registering for kindergarten to “Get a Jump Start on Reading @ Your Library.” Participating librarians provide early literacy information and a free book to each child and his/her family during kindergarten registration.



Mini-Grants

If funded, state dollars would establish literacy outreach mini-grants for public libraries to work with community partners to implement best practices in library service to children.



Idaho Child Care

Librarians host early literacy workshops for child care providers. The Commission provides children’s books and a professional development book to those who complete a workshop.



First Book

The program provides a book a month for a year for each participating child, workshops for their families, and library cards and contact with librarians for at-risk children.



Summer Reading

Summer Reading is the most popular library literacy program. Kids enjoy special programs and reading adventures, and at the same time keep their reading skills sharp for the coming school year.



Family Reading Week

An annual statewide celebration of family reading as a great family activity. Local libraries plan a variety of events to reinforce the fun and value of reading.



Find out more

<http://libraries.idaho.gov/readtome>