

Enriching ARIZONA LITERACY

2021-2022 GRANTEES



LITERARY SOCIETY
OF THE SOUTHWEST



FRIENDS OF THE SCOTTSDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY *Family Read Aloud Nights Program*

Family Read Aloud Nights supports the importance of early reading for children attending Title I schools. The library hosts families with children between preschool and second grade four times a year. These bilingual events consist of three stories interspersed with songs, rhymes, and chants. Five helpful tips for supporting early literacy at home are discussed. Children receive a free book bag and book.



GIRL SCOUTS ARIZONA CACTUS-PINE *Libraries for two summer camps in Arizona and Literary Kits for a STEM camp on the Navajo Nation*

A Library will be created for summer camp at Parsons Leadership Center in Phoenix and Willow Springs Program Center in Prescott. More than 500 k-12 girls who attend summer camp during June and July will have access to the libraries during "me time," a daily part of camp life. Seventy-five girls on the Navajo Nation will gather for a weekend of hands-on STEM activities. The STEM kits will include a book and a coloring activity book with colored pencils and crayons. Girls will take the kits used during camp home to be enjoyed by the whole family and utilized for schoolwork throughout the year.



LITERACY CONNECTS *Provide Books for the Read Seed Program*

The Reading Seed program will distribute 11,000 books to students at 26 Title I elementary schools. Volunteer coaches will use the books to work with children reading below grade level. Children receive a free book weekly, chosen specifically to match their reading level and interests. Reading Seed provides reading coaching to 1,200 children in a typical school year. The vision is that all children will read at grade level by the end of the third grade.



MAKE WAY FOR BOOKS *Story School Program*

An innovative, bilingual early literacy program that fosters early childhood (0-5) literacy and language skills while empowering parents to support their children's early literacy and learning. Children and families join every week to learn with a highly experienced Family Literacy Specialist and share stories and literacy activities focused on building children's skills and parents' knowledge, strategies, and confidence to support their children's early literacy development. This program impacts more than 18,000 young children, parents, and educators throughout Arizona each year.



READ BETTER BE BETTER *After School Literacy Program*

A twice-weekly literacy program serving 99 schools, which are Title I, in 10 districts with a literacy enrichment program helping children master the foundational skills necessary to become independent learners. During these twice-weekly afterschool sessions, "Leaders" develop stronger leadership skills while assisting their elementary-aged "Readers" in developing stronger literacy skills, translating into improved educational and career outcomes. After a single semester of participation in this program, students outperform their non-participating peers by 20% on standardized reading comprehension exams.



SCITECH INSTITUTE *Provide STEM books and kit materials across Arizona*

STEM books and kits will be distributed to rural, remote, and tribal communities providing engaging, hands-on learning with access to online support and additional explorations. Books and monthly kits are theme-based and include the essential components and instructions for projects.



SOUTHWEST HUMAN DEVELOPMENT *Reach Out and Read Program*

A national, evidence-based pediatric literacy program gives young children a foundation for success in school and life by incorporating books into pediatric care and encouraging families to read aloud together. Reach Out and Read uses the well-child visits to empower parents of children 0-5 to be their child's first and most important teacher. Books are developmentally appropriate to promote meaningful connections through book sharing and storytelling. Also, by incorporating a book into a well-child exam, the medical provider can observe progress on developmental milestones such as book-handling skills (gross and fine motor progress) and visual tracking.