

WHAT DO PEOPLE

SAY ABOUT US?

"I like to play library at home and I read to my brothers and my cousins so they can learn how to read. One of my brothers is 6 and he is reading chapter books because I taught him how to. He is a G/T student now, so he will move up to 2nd grade."
- Tytianna Goode, Norman Elementary student

"I appreciate what you do for kids. It is nice to go into a room to get a book for free. I hope it makes you happy inside. I know it does when I give something away. PS I read my book every night."
- Angelic Casarez, Zavala Elementary student

"Great program! The students I teach cannot afford to buy their own books and this affords them access to good books!!"
- Stella Medina, McBee Elementary teacher

"It's a great opportunity to show students the wonderful doors that books can open. It also provides them with their own books which they may otherwise not have."
- Karla Dunda, Wooten Elementary teacher

"RIF is a great opportunity for our students to learn to appreciate the power of reading and learning. I hope RIF never goes away and stays for our children."
- M. Shawhan, Pecan Springs Elementary teacher

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL OF AUSTIN

Vision

A community in which all children have the opportunity to become literate.

Mission

Give books to Austin children from low-income families to motivate them to become lifelong readers, and to teach their parents effective ways of sharing books with their children.

Principles

Children will read books they choose themselves. Book ownership is a fundamental tool for acquiring literacy. Children value books that positively depict their genders and cultures. Literacy is a continuous developmental process that begins with the first year of life.

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Books, to the reading child, are so much more than books -- they are dreams and knowledge, they are a future, and a past. ~ Esther Meynell ~

xyzabcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz Reading is fun! abcdefghijklmnopqrstuvwxyz

WHY IS READING

FUNDAMENTAL?

Reading is the critical first step in a child's education. Research has shown that putting books into children's hands results in academic success.



Research has confirmed **three factors** contribute to successful reading:

OPPORTUNITY Children's achievement improves when they are given opportunities to read. RIF responds to the serious problem of limited book resources for children from low-income homes.

CHOICE Children are more motivated to read when they have choices in materials. RIF provides collection of books carefully selected for its quality and range.

ACCESS Children who have books in their homes learn to value reading and are more likely to spend time reading.

RIF recognizes the research highlighting the acute problems faced by children learning to read in a second language by incorporating books from multiple languages & cultures.

How DOES RIF OF AUSTIN WORK?

RIF distributes more than 83,000 books each year through partnerships with AISD elementary schools, Head Start centers, childcare centers, and community organizations.



As a nonprofit organization, RIF depends on your contributions.

The RIF Elementary School Program works closely with librarians, teachers, and principals to bring RIF Day to schools three times a year. On RIF day, children visit their school library to participate in a reading motivational activity and choose a new book to take home.



At each of the three distributions throughout the school year, children listen to volunteers read aloud and they participate in a motivational activity. They spend time viewing the wide, age appropriate collection to help them

select the special book they will take home after writing their name inside.

Surveys show that children enjoy their books, read them multiple times, and like reading more after they interact with their RIF books. Parents report more time spent reading with their children.

WHAT KINDS OF PROGRAMS DOES RIF OF AUSTIN OFFER?



The RIF Infant & Preschool Program prepares children for reading before they enter school and motivates parents to read with their children at home.

Shared Beginnings is a partnership with Parent Education programs (PEP) at local high schools with high numbers of pregnant and parenting teens.

For Family Fun Nights, families are invited to an evening of food, games and activities that encourage active participation in the development of each child's literacy.

Parent Book Clubs are literacy-training programs held once a week for six weeks to guide parents in reading effectively to and with their children.

At various times, RIF of Austin has the opportunity to participate in community events, the largest of which is Dia de los Ninos, Dia de los Libros, held at the J.J. Pickle Branch Library.

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