



**S M A R T**  
START MAKING A READER TODAY®

# SMART South Valley Area 2017-18 Year-end Report

AREA	Sites	Students Served	Volunteers	Hours of Reading	Books Given
AREA	32	1,545	692	19,187	20,761
STATEWIDE	281	10,802	4,908	140,516	141,569
SINCE 1992		211,135	134,389	4,288,476	2,721,583

## Local Snapshot



## Reading Together and Succeeding Together

The 2017-18 school year put a wrap on SMART's 26th year of inspiring Oregon kids through books and reading. Throughout the South Valley Area, volunteers, partners, educators and donors came together to help us fulfill SMART's mission in our local community. Creating happy, confident readers and putting books in the hands of local kids and families is what it's all about. Thanks to all who helped make it possible. We look forward to more great fun, partnership and important work ahead!



I see kids return with bright eyes and smiles. I see them cherish and treasure the books they get to take home. I see their reading improve, and I know that SMART is a significant factor in this.

- South Valley Area Educator

## 2018-19 Goals

**Student Goal: 1,700**

**Fundraising Goal: \$222,750**

**Volunteer Goal: 895**

## Family and Educator Feedback

Each year, SMART gathers input from families with children in the SMART program and from educators with SMART in their schools to learn about our impacts, outcomes and areas for improvement. Here's what we learned:

**87%**

of educators indicated SMART contributed significantly to reading motivation and enjoyment for their students.

**94%**

of parents or guardians agreed that their children benefited significantly from the SMART program.

**85%**

of parents or guardians said their children demonstrate improved reading skills as a result of participating in SMART.



“

[My favorite moment with my SMART student was] when we counted up the number of books she had received over the year, and she smiled and said, 'I have a library!'

- SMART Volunteer

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## Student Milestones

Each April, SMART teachers are asked to participate in a voluntary survey reporting progress observed for each participating student in key areas related to success in literacy development. Data reveal:

**95%**

of SMART students consistently showed improvement in measures of literacy development. These measures, which align with classroom standards, include:

- Understanding that stories have a structure
- Making predictions
- Giving appropriate details when retelling
- Making connections between the story and personal experience



### Meet Taylor

Taylor Smith describes herself as a shy child who felt lost in school. "I remember that words would be on the board and other children would read them while I thought to myself 'What are those symbols?'"

Taylor looked forward to SMART each week. "I felt so special, safe and supported," she says. "My experience in SMART was always positive."

Taylor also remembers the joy of choosing books to keep. "Whenever I took home a book, it was just about the most exciting thing," she recalls. "They were prized possessions."

When asked about the impact the program had on her life, Taylor is very clear: "For me, the one-on-one face time was hugely impactful. I don't know what would have happened if I didn't have a SMART Reader."

Once Taylor learned to read, she excelled. She graduated from the University of Oregon with a degree in English, and is now the Volunteer Program and Violence Prevention Coordinator for Saving Grace in Bend.

**94%**

of SMART students exhibited more confidence in reading skills.

**96%**

met or exceeded grade-level benchmarks in reading motivation.

\*This data is from the 2015-16 program year; outcomes remain relatively constant year-to-year.