

# What's New in the Rogue Valley

Serving Jackson and Josephine counties

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## Hello from SMART in the Rogue Valley!

It's been another great year of reading together. Thank you all for partnering with us to bring the love of books to children in our communities.



## Book Challenge Raises Funds for Books for Local Kids

Our annual Book Challenge, encouraging volunteers to contribute funds toward purchasing books for SMART students, was a huge success. Thanks to our amazing volunteers, we raised more than \$4,500, which will help purchase over 1,500 books for local SMART students.

This year, Ruch Elementary & Preschool and Ft Vannoy Elementary were our local winners, with an average of 51% of volunteers participating in the Book Challenge. As the winning sites, volunteers at these schools gave away an additional book to each student. Congratulations, and thank you to everyone who participated!

Statewide, the Book Challenge raised \$90,220, thanks to the generosity of hundreds of volunteers and a matching grant from the Fred Meyer Fund; this translates to 31,600 books for kids across Oregon next year!



## 2017-2018 Rogue Valley Area Impact



**38 sites**



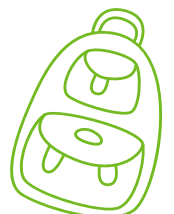
**641  
volunteers**



**1,352  
students served**



**16,509  
books given**



## SMART Provides Book Bundles for PreK Children

Thanks to funding provided by the Southern Oregon Early Learning Services HUB, SMART is providing bundles of seven new books, as well as resources on reading with children, to PreK children who are on the waiting list at local Head Start sites. This year, we provided books for 88 children to keep and build their personal libraries.



Chance, the beloved “SMART office dog” belonging to Program Administrator Mindy Alford is excited to visit (and read with) visitors to our Rogue Valley office this summer.

## SMART Readers

We love our SMART Readers! Thank you to the 587 volunteer Readers in the Rogue Valley for giving one hour of their time each week to sit down with children and have fun with books while building critical literacy skills!

## Thank You, SMARTies!

### Site Coordinators

SMART Site Coordinators supervise reading sessions, work behind the scenes to ensure their programs run smoothly and act as liaisons for SMART in their school communities. Thank you to our 54 incredible Site Coordinators who inspire us every day with their dedication and hard work.

Annie Michels	Jane Ann Rowley	Nancy Miller
Anny Zweifel	Janice Mohr-Tipton	Pat Gehres
Ardella Ramey	Janis Bogdanovich	Rebecca Jordan
Barbara Pugh	Jenny Roderick	Rhonda Schock
Barbara Ruffner	Judy Pierce	Robert Keegan
Becky Versteeg	June Gregory	Ruth Alexander
Billee Massey	Karen Brkich	Ruth Hewitt
Carol Strode	Kathryn Harrington	Scott Carle
Carolyn Mead	Kathy Sager	Seana Hodge
Connie Johnson	Kim Smith	Sharon Hardy
Danielle McCrea	Kyla LaMoure	Sheri Kennish
Debbie Hoffman	Kym Drake	Stacy Carle
Eileen Chieco	Lee Meyers	Sue Powell
Faye Mulholland	Linda Arthur	Susan Miller
Gail Lamy	Lisa Knoppow	Teresa Fiuren
Gail Plowman	Mardell Smith	Tina Gunderson
Gina Theis-Tazioli	Michelle Sheely	Tina Wright
Jan Pope	Mickey Schaufler	Vickie Smith

### SMART Rogue Valley Leadership Council

The SMART Leadership Council advocates for SMART in their companies and communities. Thank you to this fantastic group for supporting our vision of an Oregon where every child can read and is empowered to succeed!

Barbara Saigo	Jan Murphy	Scott Kelly
Becky Versteeg	Nancy Gross	Scott Koch
Bill Thorndike	Patsy Smullin	Tim George
Dawn Elsbree	Phil Long	
Holly Roberts	Rhonda Klug	

### Corporate and Foundation Sponsors

Many businesses, foundations, and individuals in the Rogue Valley provide the funding and volunteer support that allow local SMART programs to thrive. Special thanks to these businesses and partners for helping SMART bring a love of reading to children in Jackson and Josephine counties:

