

MID-YEAR PROGRAM REPORT JULY 2021 - FEBRUARY 2022

For more than 25 years, EWDC has been guided by a simple yet powerful belief: When children read, or are read to, they build the skills needed to thrive in the classroom and in life. That is why we use books to engage children's minds, encourage their growth, and inspire their futures.

Our work has become more pressing as the pandemic has widened existing educational disparities, putting Black, Hispanic, and low-income children further behind their white and higher-income peers. In response, EWDC is doing more than ever to bring the power of reading to children across the DC region.

This program year, we are going beyond using books and reading to build literacy and social-emotional skills, placing a greater emphasis on children's voices, equity and inclusion, and promoting social justice.

This is how we best help children - and communities - truly thrive.

We're proud to share our mid-year results for 2021-2022 across all three EWDC programs:

POWER READERS

One-on-one mentoring program that creates long-term reading-based relationships for elementary school students

STORYTIME

Read-aloud initiative that brings volunteers and students together to read and discuss books that support academic and social-emotional growth

THE BOOK PROJECT Free book distribution program to promote equitable access to reading materials and support shared reading at home and in communities



OVERVIEW

Everybody Wins DC programs harness the power of reading to help students build non-academic skills which are crucial for long-term success, including:

Social-Emotional Skills

Mindsets and behaviors which help us build healthy identities, navigate emotions, set and achieve goals, empathize with others, create and maintain healthy relationships, and make positive decisions

Literacy Behaviors and Attitudes

Beliefs, habits, and personal preferences associated with the act of reading, which in turn impact our likelihood to enjoy, persist through, and/or expand our reading practice

To measure our impact across these domains, EWDC conducts regular quantitative and qualitative surveys with stakeholders, issuing mid-year and end-of-year reports. The following pages provide a snapshot of our impact from July 2021 - February 2022.

While some feedback is unique to individual programs, this page summarizes quantitative impact for service sites and other stakeholders.

SERVICE SITES - SCHOOLS & COMMUNITY ORGANIZATIONS Click to View in Google STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT & INVESTMENT 2,600 **Total Children Total Volunteer Active** Served **Hours Logged Organizations**



POWER READERS: ONE-ON-ONE WEEKLY MENTORING

Power Readers is a one-on-one mentoring program that connects volunteers with elementary school students to read together one hour a week. Through these supportive relationships, children develop literacy & social-emotional skills needed to thrive in school & in life.

Below is a mid-year impact snapshot for Power Readers in program year 2021-22:



1-ON-1 WEEKLY SESSIONS



464

HOURS OF SHARED READING



612

BOOKS COMPLETED



83%

OF STUDENTS
ENJOY READING



85%

OF MENTORS
OBSERVE CONFIDENCE

Student Feedback	Family Feedback	Mentor Feedback
"Thank you for reading with me	"Karen is very patient & helps Jada	"Over the past two years, Sarah has
every week!" - Allison,	enjoy reading more!" - Cassandra,	become more confident sharing her
2nd Grader, Thomson ES	Plaza West Parent	thoughts in large groups." - Nicole,
		The Education Advisory Board
"I love reading books that I get to choose	"Rainer and LaVerne are tight.	
for myself!" - Z'hir,	We love their relationship! - Evan,	"Yusuf's confidence and attitude just keep
4th Grader, J.O. Wilson ES	Thomson ES Parent	improving!" - Steven, OPIC



STORYTIME: GROUP READ-ALOUDS & BOOK-SHARING ACTIVITIES

StoryTime allows participants to build their understanding of diverse life experiences through sharing texts. Volunteers connect with small groups of students over their chosen text, and then lead a guided discussion. Traditional StoryTime read-alouds feature one central text, while our new Book Talk format allows students and volunteers to briefly preview several books centered on a unified theme. Through these experiences, participants explore three key themes: career awareness, social-emotional growth, & current events.

Below is a mid-year impact snapshot for StoryTime and Book Talks in program year 2021-22:



VIRTUAL EVENTS HOSTED



100% SPOTLIGHT BIPOC THEMES, CHARACTERS, & READERS



40 VIRTUAL EVENT PARTICIPANTS



EVENTS HIGHLIGHT LOCAL BIPOC AUTHORS

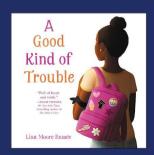


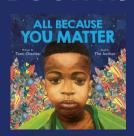
90%

OF STUDENTS ENJOY
TEXTS DISCUSSED

BOOK HIGHLIGHTS

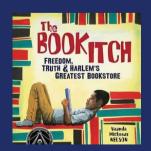














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THE BOOK PROJECT: BUILDING AT-HOME LIBRARIES & INCREASING ACCESS TO DIVERSE BOOKS

The Book Project puts thousands of free books & literacy supports directly into children's hands & homes.

These new books, provided free of charge, help children & families build their home libraries.

To expand upon this direct-to-families distribution program, EWDC began a partnership with the national Little Free Library organization's Read in Color Initiative in June 2021. EWDC has since placed 21 new book-sharing boxes in historically underrepresented communities, and is continually restocking them through the support of our corporate and philanthropic partners.

Our Read in Color work complements the work EWDC is doing to increase access to diverse books throughout all programs, so that our students see themselves on the page of the books that they read. This year, we are on track to distribute over 10,000 books - over 50% of which highlight diverse characters, elevate marginalized voices, and promote equity, inclusion, and social justice.

Below is a mid-year impact snapshot for The Book Project and Read in Color in program year 2021-22:



6,251
FREE BOOKS
DISTRIBUTED



95
TOTAL DC AREA
DISTRIBUTIONS



73%
OF BOOKS DISTRIBUTED
ARE DIVERSE



33 BOOK DRIVES HOSTED



THROUGH DRIVES

