



# RAISING A READER

WHEN FAMILIES ARE INVOLVED CHILDREN ACHIEVE



## Changing the Literacy Landscape

Raising A Reader is a national nonprofit organization that has proven it can help families successfully develop, practice and sustain home-based literacy routines essential for academic success.

RAR rotates bright red bags filled with award-winning books into children's homes on a weekly basis, exposing children on average to over 100 books per rotation cycle.

RAR pairs this book rotation with parent training and information on how to effectively share books to promote children's early literacy skills and love of learning. Families are also connected with their local public and school libraries and children receive a blue library book bag at the end of the program to keep so that they can continue the practice of borrowing books and build a lifelong habit of reading.

## BY THE NUMBERS

Total children served

**1,128,800**

Children served  
nationally

**120,000**

Implementing sites

**2,710**

Affiliate Agencies

**171**

Independent  
Evaluations

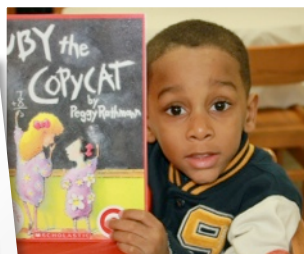
**21**

Number of states

**31**



"I LIKE TO READ TO MY DAD. HE  
READS TO ME EVERY NIGHT"



"I LIKE READING THE  
BOOKS!"



"I GET EXCITED WHEN I GET  
MY NEW BOOKS."



## Raising A Reader in San Luis Obispo County

**Raising A Reader** was launched in San Luis Obispo County in 2003, funded in partnership with First 5 School Readiness and The Community Foundation of San Luis Obispo County. In 2006, the program expanded into twelve sites through a grant from the Foundation and in partnership with the Orfalea Family Foundation.

Today, thanks to local donors, 485 children and their families will participate in Raising A Reader throughout the 2013/2014 school year in more than eight communities throughout the county, including:

- Paso Robles
- Los Osos
- Cambria
- San Miguel
- Oceano
- Shandon
- San Luis Obispo
- Atascadero

In San Luis Obispo County, 14.9% of students are designated as English Learners and a majority of them reside with families in which Spanish is the primary language. Forty-four percent of the county's students are designated as socio-economically disadvantaged and many live with families that cannot afford to purchase age-appropriate books for the home.

*"Our family started off with both parents taking turns reading to our boys before bed. Now, on most days, the boys come up to us at various times wanting one or both of us to read to them . . .or they want to read to us! I can't stress how special it is to watch your child explore their imagination through a book. They are so excited to receive their "new" book every week. Thank you very much to all who are supporting this program. You aren't just helping a child to read -- you're helping a family to grow."*

*-- From a CRDC Family*

Please consider supporting children and families throughout San Luis Obispo County by providing the Raising A Reader program to the families that need it most. By supporting Raising A Reader you can forever change the lives of children and families throughout the county and help launch them on a trajectory for academic achievement and lifelong success.

Thank you for all that you do for San Luis Obispo's children and families!



For inquiries please contact Shannon White Bond at the San Luis Obispo County Office of Education at [SWhite-Bond@slocoe.org](mailto:SWhite-Bond@slocoe.org) or Kenyon DeVault at Raising A Reader National Office at [kdevault@raisingareader.org](mailto:kdevault@raisingareader.org)