

## **Tutor Spotlight**

This month's tutor spotlight features Jodi Rosenthal, a tutor whose connection to Reading Partners spans the country. Her two cousins, Cindy and Kari, volunteer with Reading Partners Los Angeles. Jodi's family in LA have raved about Reading Partners, telling Jodi how they volunteer weekly and enjoy the one-on-one experience with their students and being able to see how they come so far in a matter of months.

Cindy has been volunteering with Reading Partners for six years and has served on the tutor advisory council for the past two years. Cindy recruited her daughter, Leah, and cousin, Kari, as well as a couple of friends, to volunteer (Leah has gone off to graduate school, but thoroughly enjoyed her time at Reading Partners).

When Jodi moved to Charlotte from Boston, she was very excited that Charlotte was becoming a Reading Partners region and was looking forward to getting involved, because she knew if Reading Partners was successful in LA, it could be just as successful across the country.

Jodi calls this past year with her first-grade student at Tuckaseegee Elementary an "amazing experience," and says it was like, "witnessing a miracle, seeing how his confidence soared with his improved reading ability, which meant so much to me. I was so incredibly proud of him to have made those strides. I do believe that I got more out of it than he did. I was blown away and inspired by the program."

Jodi's family shares a passion for Reading Partners as her family across the country follows the same curriculum and sees similar results with their students, even though they are in different cities. Reading Partners has become a part of Cindy, Kari, and Jodi's lives, and it is gratifying for them all to "connect with a child, and watch that child become a solid reader - someone who can feel good about their reading level, reach a milestone, go back into their classroom, and feel as good as the other students on this important front," according to Jodi. She added that she would like everyone to know that "if you can fit it into your schedule, you'd be doing one of the most important things you can do, which is teaching someone to read."

We appreciate Jodi and her family in LA's dedication to Reading Partners and love that they share the same meaningful experiences working with children across the country. Their connection through Reading Partners is exceptional and inspiring. Thank you Jodi, Cindy, and Kari (as well as Leah), for your service to Reading Partners!



Jodi's family circa 2009. (From Left to Right) Cindy with her four daughters, Emma, Sara, Jenna, and Leah, Kari (center) with her daughter Talia on her lap, Jodi (far right) with daughter Skyler on lap.



## **November is Picture Book Month!**

Next month is National Picture Book Month, so get your picture books out and get reading! Picture books are helpful for children starting their reading journey before they know how to read words. They are stepping stones for beginning readers. Not only do illustrations make books more engaging for the reader and help keep their attention, but they also help improve visual literacy skills, vocabulary, storytelling, and

creative thinking. By merging pictures with text, picture books express ideas and concepts and help the reader gain a better understanding of the story. The illustrations can convey emotion, ideas, storylines, foreshadowing, and much more. Let's support picture books next month here in Charlotte. If you have any picture books you would like to donate, please email us at volunteer@readingpartners.org.



## New on the blog

Reading Partners celebrates twenty years of engaging communities and empowering students

Over the past 20 years, the Reading Partners community has helped tens of thousands of students become stronger readers. Check out our new look and learn more about this exciting time in our history.

Read more



## Overcoming reading anxiety with Reading Partners

Emanuel is a special student who is sure to put a smile on your face. Learn how he transformed from an anxious reader to a confident one.

Watch the video

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