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I N S U R A N C E

PRESENTS

READ ALOUD

READ A
PALOOZA!

20

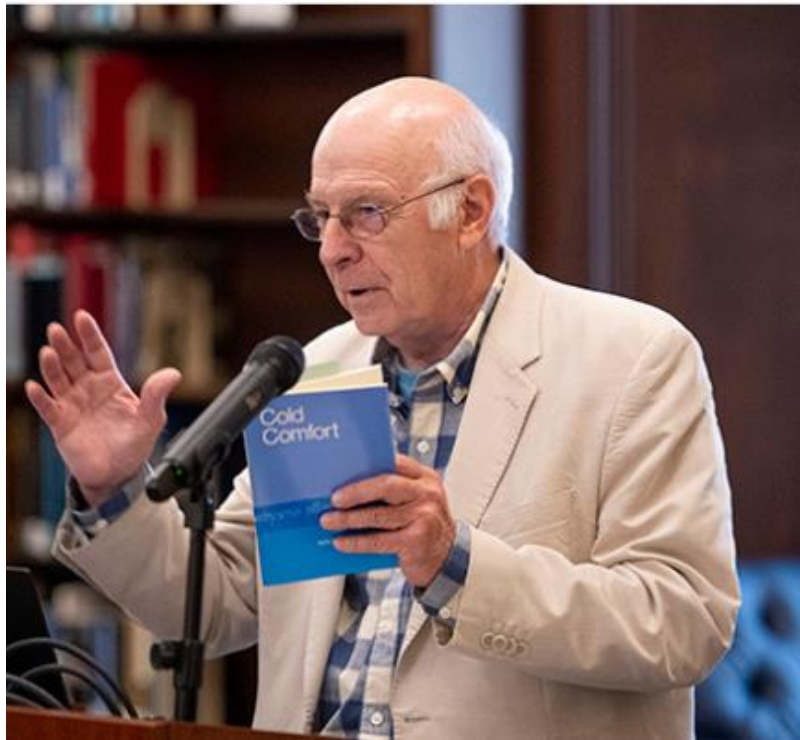


23

BINGE ON BOOKS

**Celebrate
summer
reading
success**





Featuring Special Guest

Marc Harshman

West Virginia Poet Laureate

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Summer learning loss

- Children lose an average of more than two months of reading achievement during summer break.
- Low-income children lose even more.
- The loss accumulates with each summer break.
- By high school, children can be years behind in reading skill.

What if you could
prevent
summer learning loss?



2016

**Crichton Elementary
Greenbrier County**

Read Aloud gave six books to each student to celebrate the end of the school year.

We repeated the project each year.

**Crichton's reading scores
started to rise.**

(Thanks to donors and funders Mary B. Nickell Foundation and the Hollowell Foundation.)

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*The Becker
Family*

*Drs. James & Mary
Ann Maurer*

**In Loving Memory
of Candy Galyean**



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Graystone
Consulting
from Morgan Stanley

Summer Book Binge

Is based on research from Tennessee:

Give children books they love for summer break.

It is better than summer school.

Especially
for low-income students.

SUMMER READING

Closing the Rich/Poor
Reading Achievement Gap



EDITED BY **RICHARD L. ALLINGTON**
AND **ANNE MCGILL-FRANZEN**



**Children browse
a variety of
titles.**

They 'order' six.



Volunteers put each child's name in their books. They pack each child's 'order' in a reusable tote.



Distribution Day!



OND

FOCI
ROI
BYON

LOUD

CLAS of
A card with text and a yellow sun illustration.

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Bowles Rice

*Tom Heywood &
Melody Simpson*

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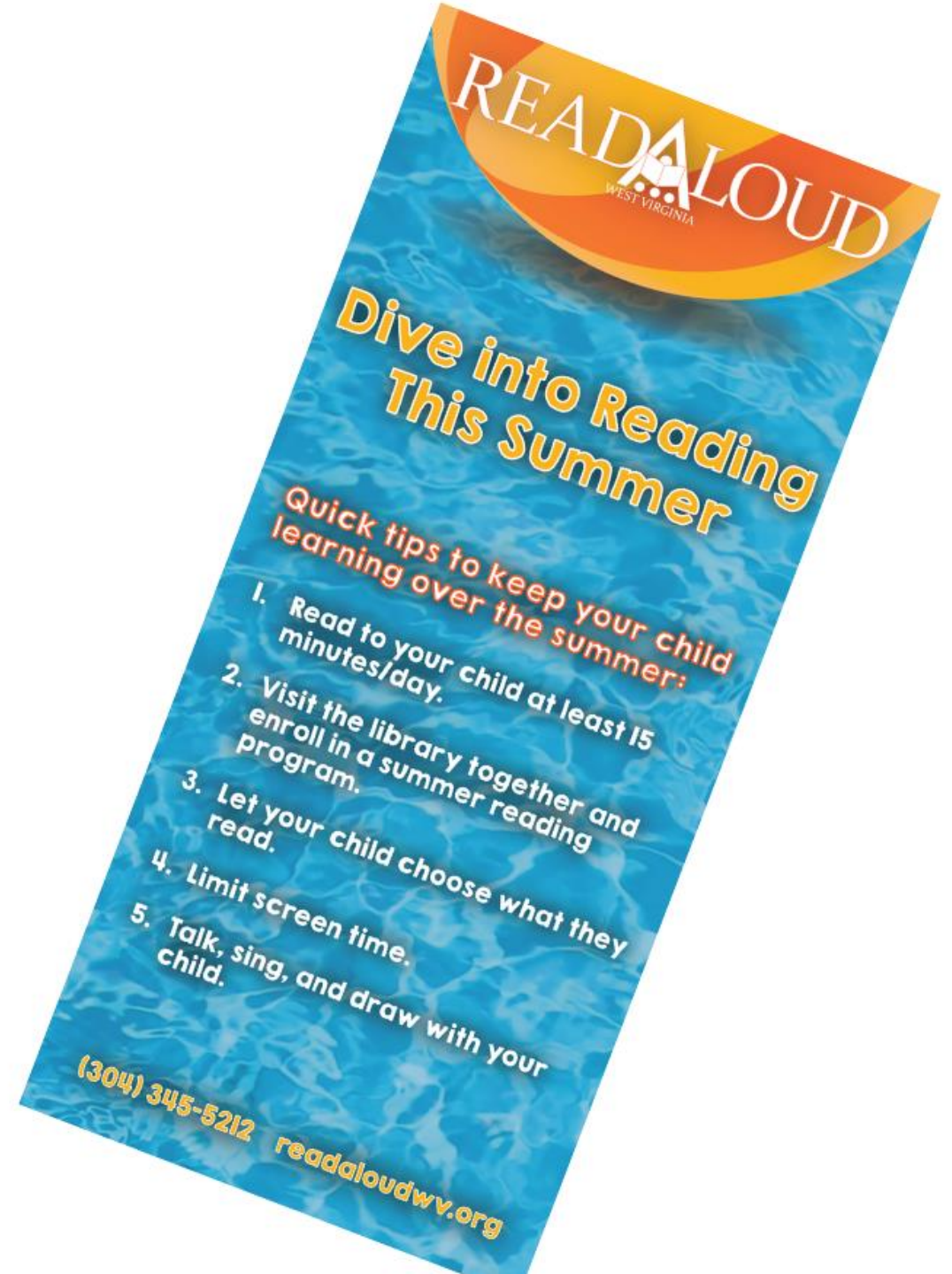
Adults
make
the
event
special.

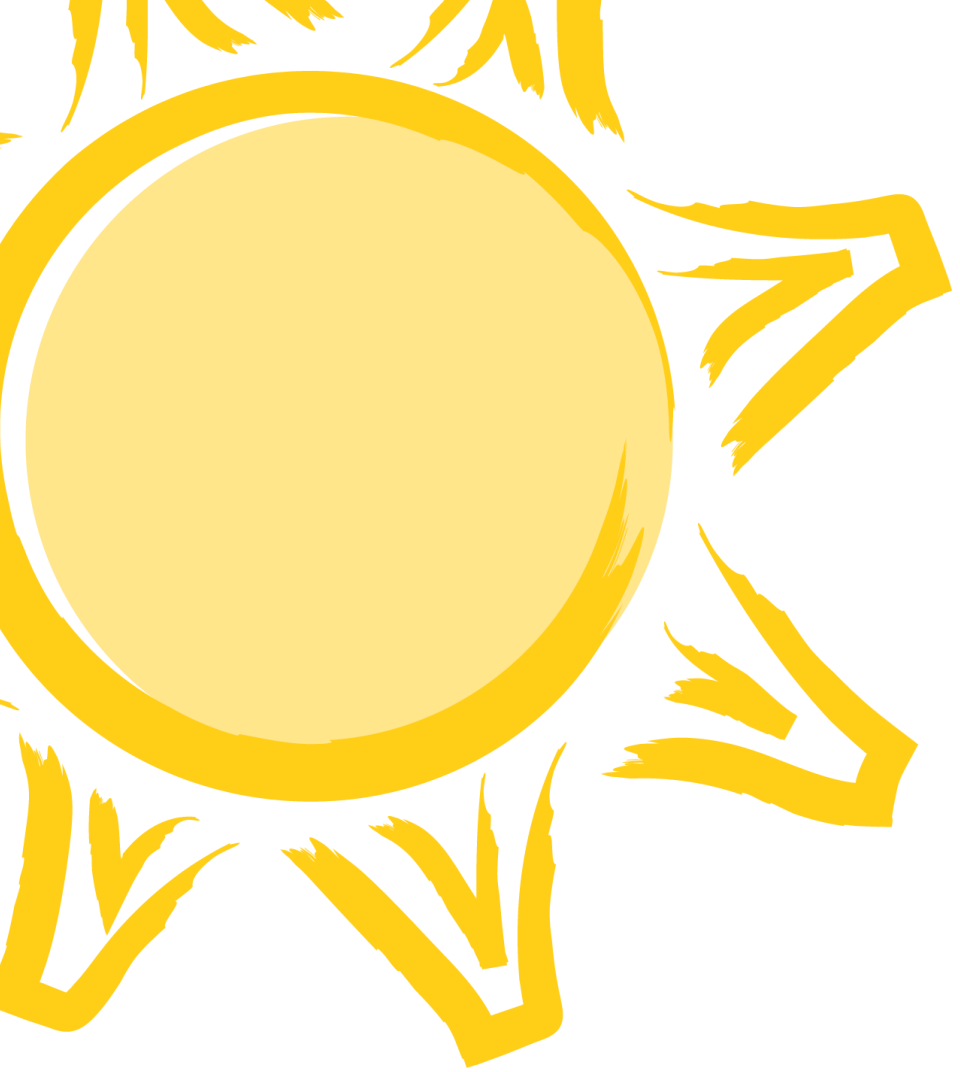
Every
child's
name is
called.



Each family
receives a
reminder:

**Children retain
or even gain
skill when they
read for fun.**





Success!

- 2015: **30 percent** of Crichton students scored proficient in reading.
- 2018: **57.58 percent** of Crichton students scored proficient in reading.

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**2018
Summer
Book Binges**

- **Clear Fork Elementary,
Raleigh County**
- **Gauley Bridge
Elementary, Fayette
County**

Thanks to funders Hollowell Dawkins Foundation, Mary B. Nickell Foundation, and the Carter Family Foundation.

2019

Summer Book Binge
at George C. Weimer
Elementary School,
Kanawha County.

**Gauley Bridge
reading scores
started to rise.**

(Thanks to The UPS Store and
Scholastic)



2020 Summer Book Binge

- **Crichton Elementary, Greenbrier**
- **Gauley Bridge Elementary, Fayette**
- **Clear Fork Elementary, Raleigh**
- **Inwood Primary, Berkeley**
- **Jefferson Elementary, Wood**

Thanks to funders Spartan Foundation, Tri-State Sheet Metal and Roofing of Parkersburg, P&G Foundation, Hollowell Dawkins Foundation, Mary B. Nickell Foundation, Carter Family Foundation, and First Book

Spring 2020: Schools closed by COVID

- Read Aloud WV and non-profit First Book created a new distribution method.
- Working with First Book, Read Aloud shipped about eight books each to 1,700 children at home.
- First Book used Read Aloud's methods with other groups around the country.





FIRST BOOK: A LEADING VOICE FOR LITERACY & EDUCATION

First Book is proud to partner with national, state, and local leaders to enhance equity in education

**Read Aloud
was invited
by First Book
to speak at
its national
webinar.**

| | |
|--|---|
|  | <p>The Library of Congress awarded First Book the David M. Rubenstein Prize for “outstanding and measurable contributions in increasing literacy levels and for its commitment to the advancement of literacy.”</p> |
|  | <p>The National Book Foundation honored First Book CEO Kyle Zimmer with its Literarian Award for her “outstanding leadership and achievements in overcoming childhood illiteracy and promoting educational equality.”</p> |
|  | <p>The Jefferson Award Foundation awarded First Book’s President and CEO Kyle Zimmer its annual award for “outstanding public service benefiting the d is ad vant ag ed.”</p> |
|  | <p>The Campaign For Grade-Level Reading recognized First Book as a Pacesetter Partner for its “sustained efforts in improving early learning and childhood literacy.”</p> |





Summer 2020: Read Aloud set up its own shipping station

- Donors saved their used boxes and mailers for Read Aloud.
- And we sent them out to families full of books – chosen by children.
- Thank you to volunteer **Jo Proops** for lovingly packing books for families week after week.



A Read Aloud Family

- A Lewis County toddler and her mom opened their box right at the mailbox.



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2021 Pandemic effects

Schoolwide, only 24 percent of Crichton scored proficient in reading.

In fifth grade, 50 percent of students scored proficient.

One difference: Crichton 5th graders had Summer Book Binge every year since kindergarten.

- 
- **Gilmore Elementary, Grades 3-5,
Jackson County**
 - **Cottageville Elementary, Grades
3-5, Jackson County**
 - **Chesapeake Elementary,
Kanawha**
 - **Crichton Elementary, Greenbrier
County**



**2022
Summer
Book Binge**



Success! Jackson County

84 percent of 4th graders at Gilmore and Cottageville maintained or **gained reading skill** during Summer 2022.

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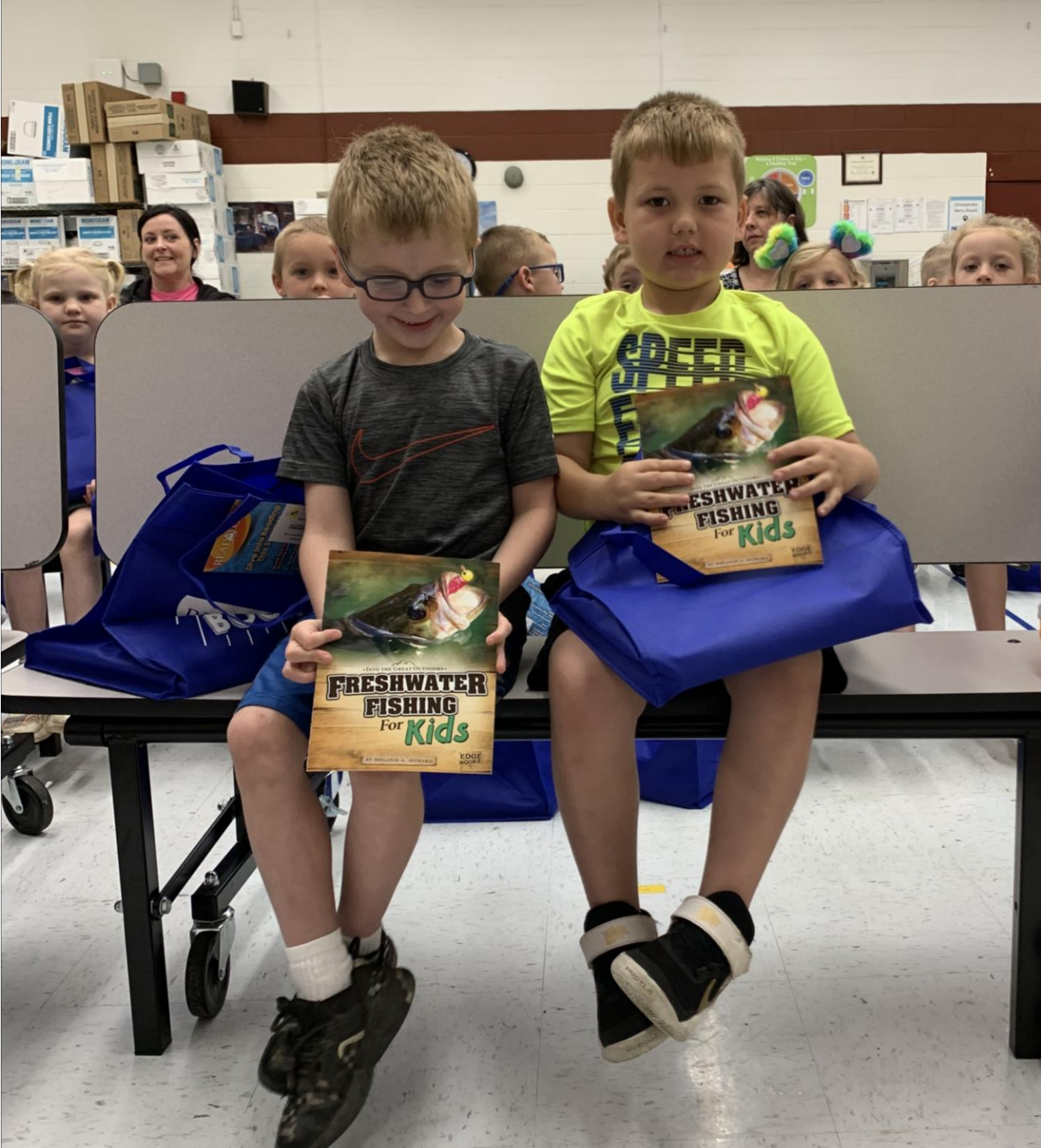
**In Loving Memory
of Candy Galyean**



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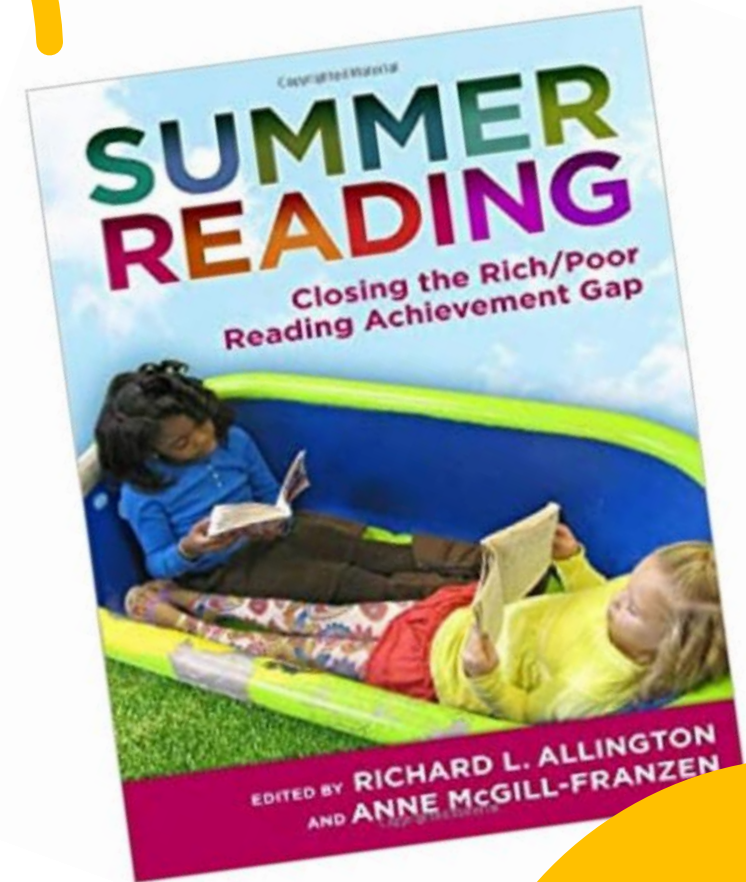
Success!
Kanawha County

53 percent of
Chesapeake
Elementary students
maintained or gained
reading skill over
summer 2022.

Conclusion:

In every Summer Book Binge school where we could get data, results matched the research.

Students maintained or gained reading skill over summer break.

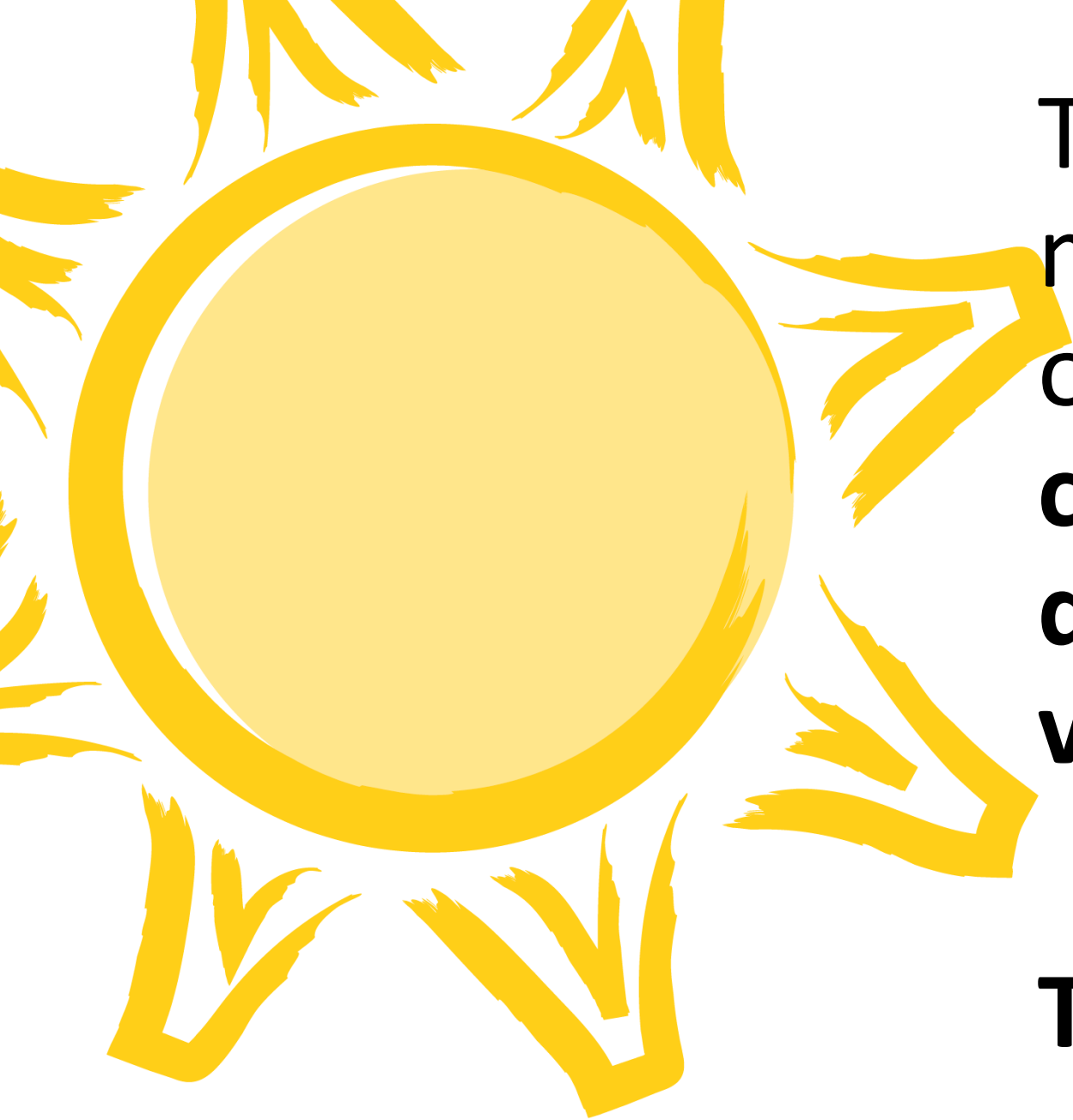


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*Tom Heywood &
Melody Simpson*



This progress was made possible by the ongoing support of **corporate sponsors, donors, grantors, and volunteer readers.**

Thank you

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CHARLESTON, WEST VIRGINIA

Thank you for helping



**To keep books in the hands and on
the minds of West Virginia children.**



SUMMER 2023

More schools than ever:

Gilmore Elementary, Grades 3-5, Jackson
Cottageville Elementary, Grades 3-5, Jackson

Fairview Elementary, Marion

Chesapeake Elementary, Kanawha

Sharon Dawes Elementary, Kanawha

Crichton Elementary, Greenbrier

Volunteer readers motivate children to read for fun

- Model reading for pleasure.
- Spark conversations about books.
- Validate school lessons.
- Show that reading is **valued** by people who children love and respect.



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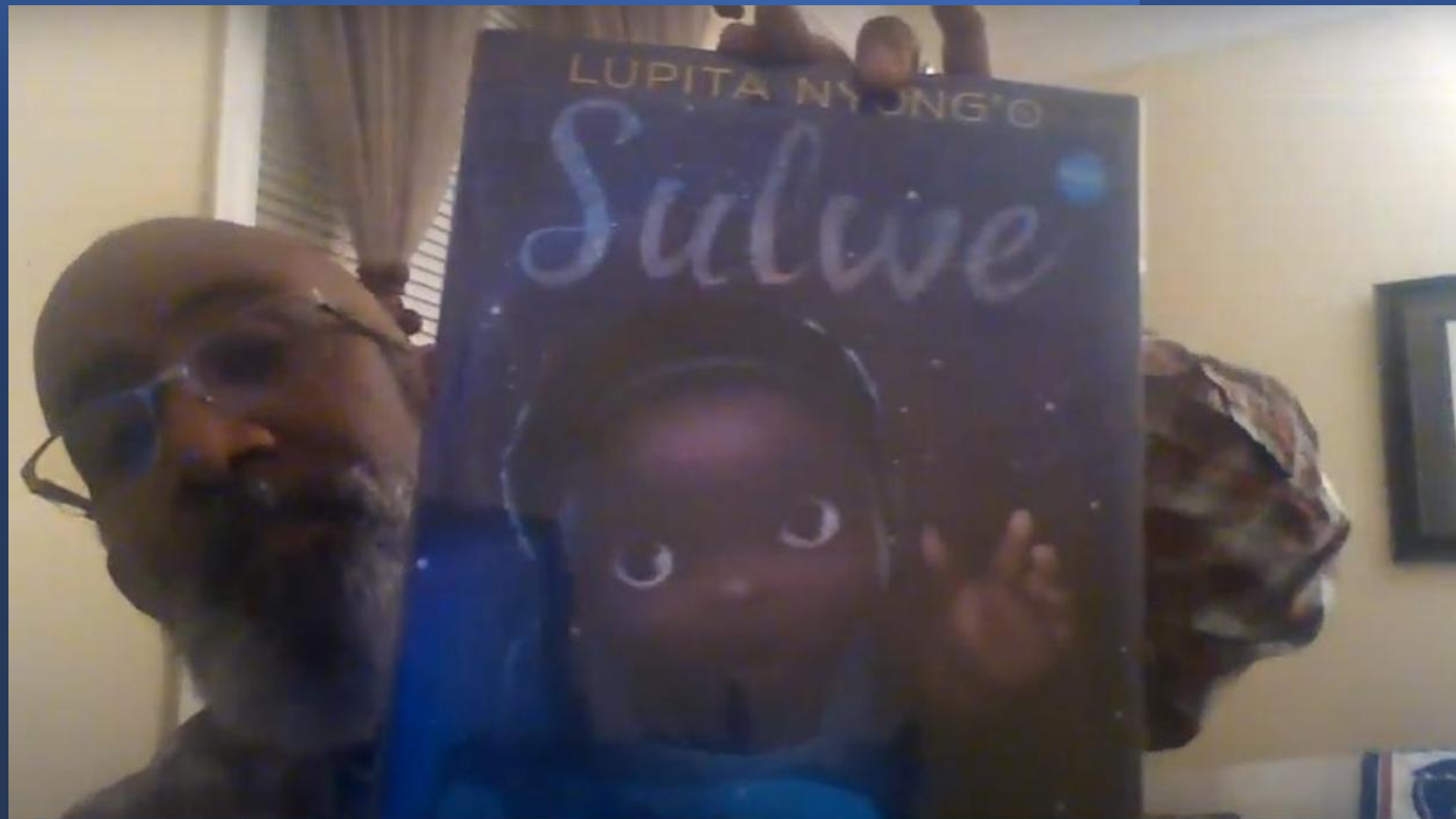
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Volunteer readers

- 604 classrooms with a reader
- 434 active readers
- 210 teachers still want a reader





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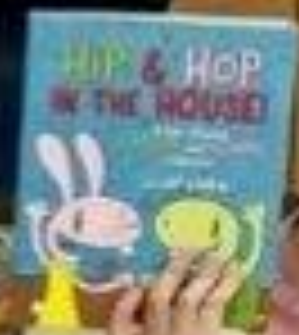
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The Pigeon
Finds a
Hot Dog!

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THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 WINE PULL DONORS

The Wine and Cheese Shop at Capitol Market

Tom Tinder

Bob Pepper

David and Jennifer Carriger

Dr. Kim Cross

Breathe Wine & Culture Co.

Bricks & Barrels

Melody Simpson

Rita Douglas

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Erica Baumbras

Denise Davenport

Raleigh County Chapter

Casey Willson and Meg Kinghorn

Dave Pope

Christine Compton

Elena Compton

Frank and Elizabeth Dix, Kirkwood

Winery, Summersville

Angi Hyre

THANK YOU TO OUR 2023 SILENT AUCTION DONORS

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Carol Grove, Annapolis Junction, Md.

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City of Beckley

Hilltop Coffee, Beckley

Joyce & Steve Mestemacher, Parkersburg

Tamarack

Erica Baumgras and Mo Persinger, Charleston

Dr. Samir Waris, Charleston

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Thank you

For keeping books in the hands and on the minds of West Virginia children.