



Herbert and Sarah M. Gibor
Reading Partners' Program

April 2019

Dear Reading Partners,

Spring has finally sprung and we are moving into the final part of the year. At our recent team leader meeting, part of our discussion centered around book selections, and dates for the end of year parties at all of the schools. Keep an eye out for an email from your leaders with party dates and snack assignments.



Our book distribution will take place this year on Monday May 6 from 9-3, and Wednesday May 8th from 9-1. Come on up to our UJF offices, 1035 Newfield Ave., to pick out the books you would like to present to your students at your school parties. If these dates do not work for you, we will make an alternative arrangement. Any questions please feel free to contact me.

Our Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast celebrating 20 years of Reading Partners will take place Monday, June 3rd at 9:30 AM. Deborah Freedman is this year's featured speaker. If you are interested in volunteering please let me know. Official invitations to follow.

I will be out of the office for the Passover Holiday and will return April 29th. I will have limited access to email and you can still reach me that way.

Enjoy the beautiful blossoms outdoors! And be sure to recognize the fruits of your labor ,that because of your love and care, are happening inside your school walls. Thank you for all that you do!

Happy Reading,
Lenore



Over 30 volunteers attended our January 16th workshop. Board of Ed reading teacher Melissa Murray presented information on Phonological Awareness. She also gave us several activities to implement in our sessions and recommended websites for phonemic awareness.

The Definition of Phonological Awareness includes:

- Word Awareness
- Syllable Awareness
- Rhyme Awareness
- Alliteration and Initial Sound Awareness
- Phoneme Awareness

I have packets at the office with the workshop information for those who were unable to join us. These packets include games, activities and websites with a lot of helpful information and exercises to enrich our reading sessions.



Reading Partner Barbara Rosenberg and her granddaughter

Barbara Rosenberg is a reading partner and co team leader at Davenport Elementary school. She joined Reading Partners 15 years ago, after learning about the program from then Reading Partner Judy Altman. Before becoming involved with Reading Partners, Barbara was a teacher of the deaf for 31 years at the Lexington School for the Deaf in Jackson Heights Queens. She holds an undergraduate degree in speech and a Masters in Deaf Education.

Barbara's late husband Jack was also a reading partner. One of her favorite moments in Reading Partners is a story Jack shared with her. When one of his students sounded out a large word, he gave her a sticker. The student then asked for another sticker, and when he gave her one she put it on his shirt and said "this is for helping me."

In her spare time Barbara volunteers at the Den for Grieving Kids and Families, the Jewish Historical Society, loves to knit and spend time with her family. Of all her accomplishments, she is the proudest of successfully lobbying to pass the "hard metals disease bill" that allows patients two years after finding out they are sick to file a lawsuit. This victory was especially meaningful as it came on what would have been her 25th wedding anniversary.

Successful Sessions with your Reading Partner

Three years ago, Barbara moved from working with second grade to Kindergarten students. She found that it was quite different in many ways! When working with her younger students these days, she will have them stop reading every few minutes and do some jumping jacks. This helps them to blow off

some steam and refocus on their learning.

The children are often working on learning their letters. She begins the year working with the letters that are in their names. The children enjoy playing the word guessing game. For example, Barbara will say "I have something in my wallet that begins with the letter M." The kids love to guess what it could be and learn what is hidden in her bag. She also likes to read repetitive books with the children, such as the Gingerbread Man. She feels that the repetition helps the students hold on to all kinds of information and is useful in the three areas of decoding, fluency and comprehension.

When working with second graders, Barbara would give the children a notebook to use throughout the school year. The students would write down the different things they were working on in the notebook and bring it back and forth to their sessions. This gave the children a sense of ownership and the ability to look in their notebook and review their work. At the end of the year they were able to see just how much they progressed.

Spring 2019 School Calander

Monday-Friday April 15-19: Spring Recess No School

Wednesday April 24: Early Dismissal

Monday May 27: Memorial Day No School

Wednesday May 29: Early Dismissal

Wednesday and Thursday June 12-13: Early Dismissal

Friday June 14: Tentative LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

SAVE THE DATE: This year's Volunteer Appreciation Breakfast will be on Monday June 3rd.