



Oregon State Library

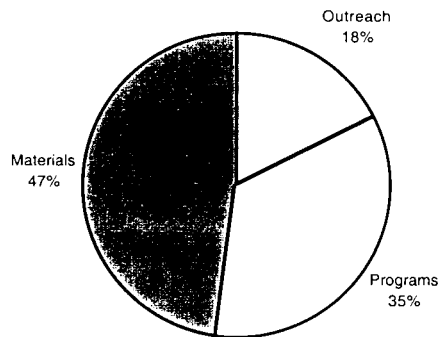
Ready to Read Grant Program
2000-2001 Final Report

"The single most important activity for building the knowledge required for eventual success in reading is reading aloud to children."

Becoming a Nation of Readers: The Report of the Commission on Reading. The National Academy of Education, 1985.

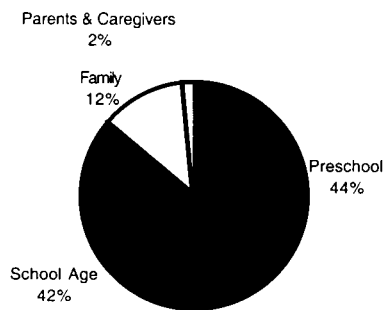
- Purpose:* To establish, develop or improve public library service to children in an effort to improve the reading skills of all of Oregon's children, beginning at birth.
- Funding:* \$1.00 per child (0-14) per year: \$704,311 State General Funds in 2000-2001.
- Distribution:* All public libraries are eligible to apply for an annual grant. Distribution is based on a statutory funding formula that includes number of children and square mileage of each library jurisdiction.
- Grant Amounts:* In 2000-2001, from \$ 85 to \$ 118,048; average grant = \$ 6,403.
- Results:* Since the program began in 1993, library services to children (circulation and program attendance) have increased from 7.8 million to nearly 11 million in 2000, a 41% increase.

Ready to Read Expenditures by Category 2000-2001



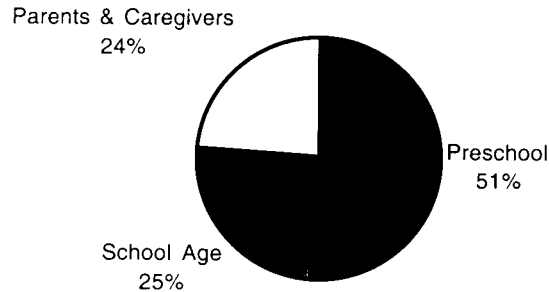
Libraries in Oregon choose to use their Ready to Read funds in a variety of ways, based on their community and library needs. This chart illustrates how Ready to Read Grant funds were used in 2000-2001. Some libraries choose to provide one type of service or material with their funding while other libraries provide an array of services and materials with their grant moneys.

Ready to Read Funded Library Programs 2000-01



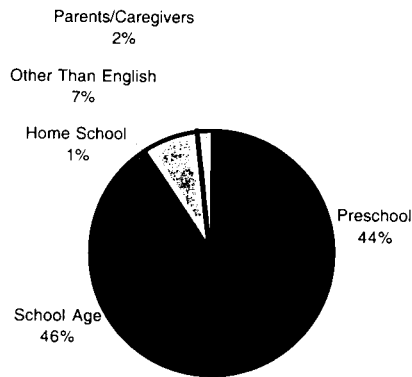
Programs in libraries are an integral component of library service to children. They encourage reading, bring people into the library, and showcase library materials. In many areas in Oregon they serve to provide a cultural experience that may not be available elsewhere in the community. Often library programs are provided by library staff, and, at times, Ready to Read funds are used to bring storytellers, puppeteers and other performers into the community and the library. The preschool storytime and Summer Reading Program serve to prepare children for school, help maintain reading skills and foster a love of reading.

**Ready to Read Funded Library Outreach Projects
2000-01**



Outreach projects take place outside library walls to reach children, youth, and parents who may have difficulty visiting the library. The Ready to Read projects in 2000-2001 were as diverse as providing packets of materials to families of newborns in the hospital, including a new book for the baby, to visiting classrooms of grade school children to share booktalks which spark a love of reading. Visiting child care homes and centers to share stories and activities is another effective outreach project that brings children and books together in non-traditional ways.

**Ready to Read Funded Library Materials
2000-01**



While many libraries in Oregon used Ready to Read funds to purchase **materials** directed at both preschool and school age children, a growing number of libraries in Oregon are targeting funding to specific audiences, such as home school families, and families whose language is other than English. Recognizing the important role of parents as a child's first teacher, libraries also provide collections of materials to assist in that role.

Sample Individual Library Results from Reports for 2000-2001:

The **Forest Grove City Library** used \$3,458 in state funds to provide storytimes in Spanish and English to a variety of children. Funds were also used to transport Head Start children to the library to enjoy the bilingual storytimes on a regular basis.

The **Newberg Public Library** used \$3,755 in state funds and \$1,400 in local funds to provide a Kids Book Club, the Frequent Reader incentive project, and to support Toddler Corner meetings.

The **Salem Public Library** used \$27,143 in state funds and \$3,300 in local funds to provide programming that had been severely curtailed several years ago due to budget cuts. Among the programs offered were the Book Week Sleepover, holiday storytimes, and a third session of infant lapsit.

The **Coos County Library Service District** used \$6,771 in state funds to provide board books for Coos County Healthy Start "Welcome Baby Bags," and to upgrade reference collections for children in member libraries.

The **Wilsonville Public Library** used \$2,495 in state funds and \$400 in local funds to continue their booktalking program for 4th-6th graders in Wilsonville schools.

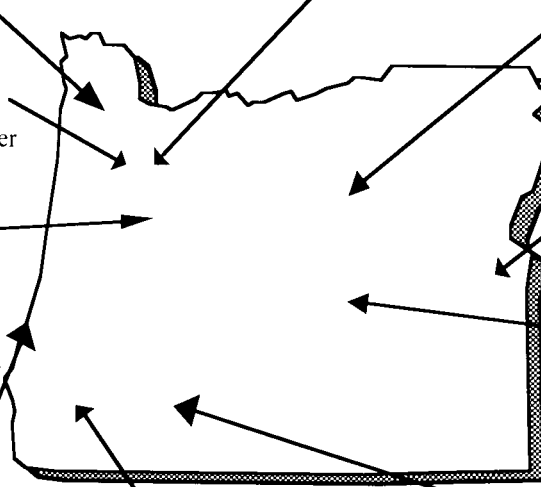
The **Grant County Library** used \$9,193 in state funds to provide materials and programs for children. Jungle themed furniture was also added to provide a more appealing area for children.

The **Vale Public Library** used \$385 in state funds to develop a collection of Spanish language and Spanish/English bilingual materials.

The **Harney County Library** used \$18,791 in state funds and \$12,036 in local funds to decorate and upgrade the youth area, provide a paid staff member to coordinate programming, and create a "homeschooling shelf" for area homeschool families.

The **Agness Public Library** used \$589 in state funds and \$1,100 in local funds to continue their Summer Reading/Art Program with a special emphasis on preschool children and bringing in outside artists.

The **Klamath County Library** used \$22,529 in state funds and \$850 in local funds to become involved in the community wide Literacy Day and to provide programming and materials for children.



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