



## Reading Is Empowerment

There are 50,300 elementary school students in BC who struggle with low literacy. That's one in every 11 school children.

Research shows that a child's reading level at the end of Grade Three is a more accurate predictor of school success than any other variable, including family income, educational attainment of parents, ethnic or cultural identity, or home language. Our approach is to initiate early critical intervention into the lives of struggling readers.

Boosting literacy means boosting a child's chance of success in school and in life in these critical areas.

*EMPLOYMENT: Strong literacy skills are positively associated with better employment opportunities and higher lifetime earnings.*

*HEALTH: Higher literacy rates are linked to higher health literacy, which result in better health outcomes in adulthood.*

*CONNECTION: Reading together strengthens relationships and builds a healthy sense of self-esteem and self-confidence in budding young readers.*

*SELF-RELIANCE: Reading skills are a key component in the development of reasoning and problem solving.*

## Our Mission

We envision a world where all children have acquired a passion for reading and with that, the self-confidence to propel them towards success.

Through ONE TO ONE volunteer tutoring, we help children develop literacy skills to last a lifetime.

## Our Impact

Since the introduction of the ONE TO ONE program in 1989, ONE TO ONE has helped over 20,000 children across BC improve their literacy skills.

## Our History

The first ONE TO ONE Reading program began in Vancouver in 1989 and has expanded to operate through local literacy societies in over twenty communities throughout British Columbia.

Salt Spring Literacy piloted its first ONE TO ONE program at Fulford School in 2015. The following year Salt Spring Literacy was able to support tutors in Fernwood School, Salt Spring Elementary School and Phoenix Elementary School.



One student



One trained volunteer



One powerful connection



## The ONE TO ONE Program

ONE TO ONE provides free children's literacy programs that connect elementary school students with trained literacy tutors to develop their literacy skills in an environment where they can make mistakes, learn, and grow.

Volunteer tutors are invited to participate in one or two twelve week sessions.

Many of the volunteers return each year but there is always room for more tutors. For anyone who loves to listen to children read, this is a great opportunity. Very little time is required, just one to one and a half hours one day a week for twelve weeks. Do consider participating as a full time volunteer or as a substitute volunteer. Salt Spring Literacy provides training and support for all volunteers who participate in the ONE TO ONE program.

## In-School Programming

ONE TO ONE programming is aimed at the grey-area students – those who do not receive any other resource support directly from schools (i.e., no designated learning issues) but have not achieved reading skills commensurate to their grade levels.

The in-school ONE TO ONE program provides individualized tutoring to children during regular school hours. A 12 week fall session runs from October to January and a 12 week spring session runs from late January to May.

Typically, each student spends approximately 30 minutes two to four times a week with a volunteer tutor. These children have an opportunity to practice their reading in an environment where they feel free to take risks, make mistakes, and learn at their own pace.



## Virtual Programming

Since the impact of the COVID epidemic in 2020, ONE TO ONE has developed virtual programs by piloting both in-school and home based virtual reading programs. Our virtual programs are especially important for emerging young readers in a time of instability in their education.

## Tutor Support

Salt Spring Literacy provides training and support for all volunteers who participate in the ONE TO ONE program. Training workshops are presented before both the fall and spring sessions. Workshops on various topics are also offered during the sessions and ongoing support is provided by school based coordinators and an overall program coordinator.

## Contact Salt Spring Literacy

email: [info@saltspringliteracy.org](mailto:info@saltspringliteracy.org)

phone: 250 537 9717