

Reading Allowed

JANUARY 2025

Executive Director Message

Happy New Year!

Reading Allowed is proud to be a founding member of the [PA Literacy Coalition](#). Established in January 2025, the Pennsylvania Literacy Coalition (PLC) is a diverse network of individuals and organizations from across Pennsylvania committed to transforming literacy outcomes statewide. Representing a range of sectors, PLC members all share a common mission: to end Pennsylvania's literacy crisis by championing comprehensive, evidence-based policies. The coalition envisions a future where every student receives a high-quality literacy education, and every educator is equipped with the training, resources, and support essential for success.

Reading Allowed continues to work tirelessly to provide as many struggling readers as possible with access to the high-quality instruction that is their right. And we're not stopping. But we can't do it alone which is why we're so excited to work with the PA Literacy Coalition.

I look forward to sharing information and resources on how our Reading Allowed community can advocate and agitate to reach our goals.

2025 is already shaping up to be a great one. As the icy wind blows outside my window, it's hard to believe that we're thinking about summern but we are! And we have exciting plans to share with you.

Wishing you and your family a healthy and happy 2025 and sending much gratitude for all you do for our Reading Allowed students.

Angela

[DONATE NOW TO READING ALLOWED](#)



COMMITTED TO MAKING HIGH-QUALITY STRUCTURED LITERACY INSTRUCTION ACCESSIBLE FOR ALL

Happy New Year From Our Family To Yours



Happy New Year from our wonderful Reading Allowed team (pictured above). We are so excited to share stories about our students, to learn the most up-to-date techniques for teaching our students, and more!



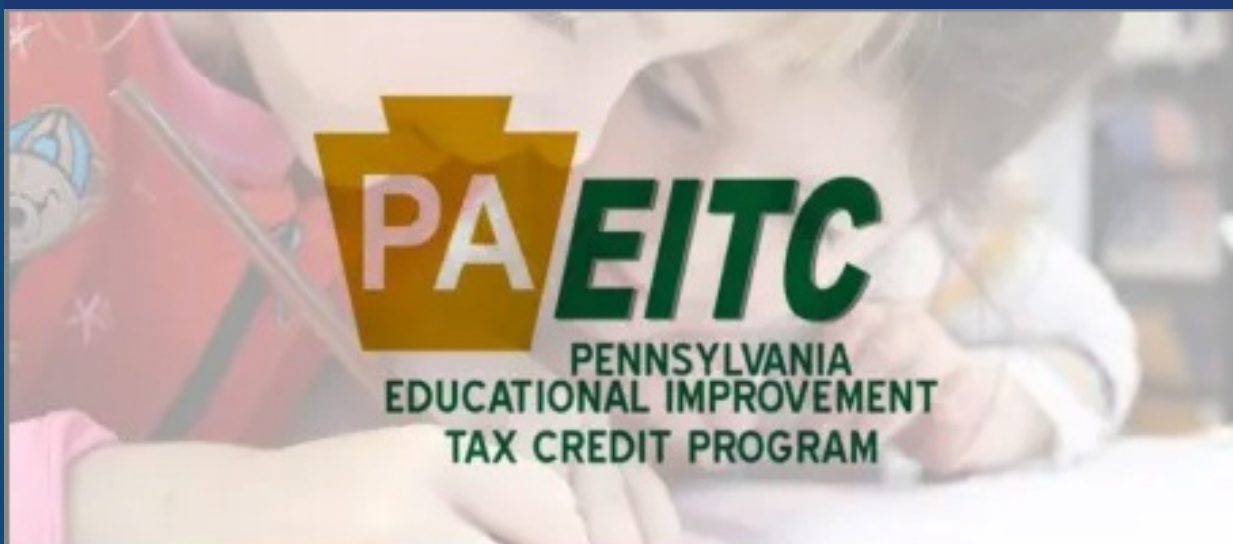
This is Sum Opportunity!

SUM (See and Understand Math) is now accepting applications for qualified tutors to be trained in a research-based, systematic, structured methodology for teaching math. Tutors will attend a 6-hour introductory class in May and take part in an in-person training in June.

SUM will cover the cost of this unique, effective training as well as provide a stipend upon completion. Participants will then be paid a competitive tutoring rate. For more information about this opportunity, please email SUM directly by clicking below.

[EMAIL SUM PHILLY](#)

Using PA State Tax Credit to Advance Philanthropy



Reading Allowed is an approved Educational Improvement Organization (EIO)

organization), meaning it is eligible to receive EITC gifts. That means individual and corporate donors are eligible to make a donation to Reading Allowed and obtain a Pennsylvania state tax credit equal to 90% of their donation.

If you missed our recent webinars explaining how you can utilize Pennsylvania's Educational Improvement Tax Credit Program (EITC) to support Reading Allowed students, just click the arrow below! Big thanks to Todd Unger and Jed Silversmith for their time and hard work!

[WATCH THE WEBINAR NOW](#)

Early Literacy Connection to Incarceration



"Literacy and crime are connected. The Department of Justice states, "The link between academic failure and delinquency, violence, and crime is welded to reading failure. **Over 70% of inmates in America's prisons cannot read above a fourth-grade level.**"

Additional Statistics on Low Early Literacy Skills and Incarceration:

- According to the National Assessment of Adult Literacy, 2/3 of students who cannot read proficiently by the end of the fourth grade will end up in jail or on welfare.
- 85% of all juveniles who interface with the juvenile court system are functionally low literate.
- Juvenile incarceration reduces the probability of high school completion and increases the probability of incarceration later in life.
- Students who drop out of high school are 5 times more likely than high school graduates to be arrested in their lifetime.

- Students who drop out of high school are 63% more likely to be incarcerated than their peers with four-year college degrees."

Links to Sources:

<http://www.edjj.org/focus/prevention/phcsc.html>

<http://www.beginstoread.com/research/literacystatistics.html>

<https://www.proedtn.org/news/313839/Literacy-is-Critical.htm>

<https://nces.ed.gov/pubs94/94102.pdf> Source: <https://governorsfoundation.org/gelf-articles/early-literacy-connection-to-incarceration/>

Community Events



Nurturing Children & Ourselves

Our friend, Beth Clauss, at Parent to Child will be offering monthly workshops for parents at a low-fee and through telehealth starting on January 29th. If you're a parent feeling like you have zero down time or you're having difficulty understanding and interpreting your child's behaviors and emotions, this workshop is for you. Let's face it, we could all use a little help now and then! If your new year's resolution was to tackle parenting challenges, register via this link below! Click on the flyer (right) to download a full size version.

PARENTING FOR GROWTH

Nurturing Our Children and Ourselves

Struggling in navigating your child's big feelings and behaviors? Feeling like you have no time for yourself?

In this workshop, parents will learn skills to help navigate the challenges we all face in parenting.

Some themes we will explore are:

- Understanding your child's behaviors and emotions
- How temperaments shape our parenting
- Parenting styles
- Strategies for supporting our children as they grow
- Emotional co-regulation
- Nurture the nurturer (self-care)
- Growth over perfection in our parenting

The workshop will be offered via zoom the last Wednesday of each month from 7:30–9pm. Please register below for one of the upcoming dates.

January 29, 2025
February 26, 2025
March 26, 2025

REGISTER NOW
<https://forms.gle/XZbfZSvpmfQb8cG7>



For more info contact:

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Parent to Child
THERAPY ASSOCIATES

REGISTER NOW

Join Read by 4th's Parent Council

Read by 4th's Parent Council is a powerful group of parents and caregivers who share their knowledge, experiences, and ideas with working groups. The group meets regularly to collaborate and advance a *Common Agenda* to help more children in Philly read at grade level by 4th grade. Read by 4th is currently looking for parents or primary caretakers of children ages 0 to 9 who live in Philadelphia and enrolled in Philly schools if the child is in the 5-9 age range. Hurry. Application deadline is 1/15/25.

- **Share your experience raising a reader and navigating Philly's school system.**
- **Help shape strategies that support our city's children.**
- **Meet incredible literacy change-makers**
- **Ensure families' voices guide decisions**
- **Earn \$50/hour for 2–4 hours**

Join Read by 4th's Parent Council

Get paid to share your experiences and help make sure Philly's children become strong readers.

per month.

APPLY TODAY

Keep Your Reader Motivated

Our friends from [All About Reading](#) have created a terrific infographic below. It's so great, we wanted to share it with all of you.

10 Easy Ways to Encourage Motivation to Read



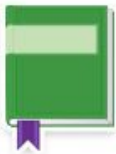
Start early!

Reading with your babies and toddlers helps them connect books with love and comfort.



Head to the library.

Libraries are often filled with resources for children—summer reading programs, story times, craft classes, and of course, shelves and shelves of books!



Read it again.

Young children enjoy anticipating what comes next. Use this to your child's advantage. When stories contain predictable text or rhymes, your child may be able to finish the sentences.



Build your own library.

The more books you have at home, the more opportunities your child will have to pick one up and read. Try rummage sales, library book sales, resale shops, and bookstore clearance racks.



Go "on location."

Reading becomes an adventure when you can connect a book to a real place. Reading about animals? Visit a farm or a zoo. Too far for a visit? Find pictures!



Make books accessible.

Keep books on a low bookshelf or in a basket on the floor, or allow your child to choose her own special spot just for her books.



Let them wiggle!

Some kids get uncomfortable when they have to sit still. But read-alouds are important for wigglers too, so let them wiggle! Coloring, kneading playdough, or building with LEGO bricks can keep hands busy while you read.



Bring stories to life.

Capture your child's attention and make reading fun by reading with expression. Try using different voices for different characters. Exaggerate the rhythm of the text. Let your face and your voice show what the characters are feeling.



Set an example.

Let your child see that reading is important, whether it's reading a book for pleasure, reading to learn, or reading a recipe to make dinner!



Change it up!

If you normally read in the same place each day, don't hesitate to try out a new location from time to time. Try a front porch, park bench, or a cozy reading nook.

 ALL ABOUT *Reading*

HAVE A MOTIVATION TIP? LET US KNOW. YOU MIGHT BE FEATURED IN OUR NEXT NEWSLETTER!

STAY CONNECTED



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