

Our mission: “...every child reading by the end of 3rd grade.”

Education Connection - The “Traditional” Approach

In the 2019-20 school year, prior to the CV19 interruption, Education Connection served 11 school districts totaling 94 elementary schools, by volunteering 30-minutes a week (2 15-minute sessions) of 1:1 reading with a student in their school. Our vision and mission are to help solve one of the largest problems in the Greater Austin area – childhood illiteracy, thus lowering school dropout rates. Research shows that children not reading at grade level by the end of 3rd grade, are four times more likely to drop out of school. Join the movement to change this trend by becoming a volunteer in one of the many participating elementary schools in the Greater Austin area. ***It is our goal to be back reading in the Spring semester!***



Potential Spring 2021 Timeline:

- **October 5, 2020:** Registration for in-person volunteering Spring 2021
- **November 30 - December 5:** On-line training/webinar
- **Late February through May:** Reading on campus (may vary per district and campus)

We are monitoring all state, local and district information. Updates will be emailed, in our newsletters, and posted on education-connection.org

-  Make a minimum 30-minute weekly commitment to serve in-person from February–May 2021.
-  Register starting on October 5th at education-connection.org, for the district/school and training of your choice.
-  Begin recruiting your friends, neighbors, and co-workers to join us!

For more information or questions: education-connection.org | 512-813-5918

Education Connection - The “Non-Traditional/CV19” Approach

In accordance with district protocols and health/safety being highest priority, **Education Connection volunteers will not return to campuses for the Fall 2020 semester.** As the school year ended early for 2019-20 and this unprecedented time continues for an indefinite period; families and teachers are stretched more now than ever and need our support.

Education Connection has found alternative ways to support & serve the students, teacher & families for the Fall 2020 semester:



Encouragement

Words are powerful. In these uncertain times, with so much negatively swirling around, our words of encouragement are crucial. *Will you write an encouraging note or email to a student, a teacher, or even an entire class?*



Book Reading

The research shows that reading with students improves their sense of self and positively affects their success rates in the classroom. Not being able to meet with students in-person is a hard blow to the goal and mission of Education Connection. *Would you read a book on video for the teacher or librarian to use with students?*



Book Talk

A creative way to keep fostering a love for reading is to share a Book Talk. Book Talks are a quick “teaser” of your favorite book, via video recording. Students will get an idea of what the book is about, creating interest in hopes they will choose to read that book or a similar one. *Do you have a favorite book you would share for a Book Talk?*



Book Collection

We may not be able to read with the students in person, but we can provide resources for our students! Throughout the school year we will collect books for students’ grades K-5 to distribute throughout the 11 school districts we serve. *Would you help collect, sort, and organize books to be distributed to students?*



Resources

Another way to support our schools and students during this season is simply to provide resources. Students across the Greater Austin area are in need of not only books, but holiday meals, birthday presents, and basic needs such as toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, and other essential items. *Would you assist with donating, collecting, or sorting items for distribution in any these areas?*

Once you’ve decided how you’d like to engage, please email us at info@education-connection.org & share how you’d like to be involved.