



Rosie Reader By the Numbers - January 2025

Rosie Reader Classroom Visits

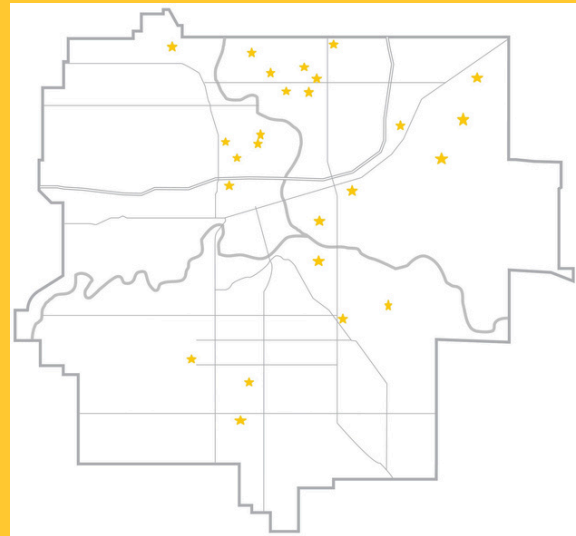
- 219 preschool classroom visits - 3,178 kids in attendance
- 89 elementary school classroom visits - 1,920 kids in attendance
- 19 after-school visits - 414 kids in attendance
- **Total: 327 classroom visits - 5,512 kids in attendance**



Rosie Reader Damian reads at Morris Elementary School

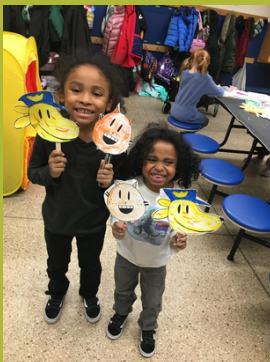
The Rosie team interacted with 632 people at community events in January, such as:

- McKinley Elementary Literacy Night
- Fueling Hope Gas Giveaway
- Oak Park Elementary's Soup and a Story Night



Everywhere the Rosie team was in January in Des Moines!

Where's Rosie? After-School Programs



Children at Metro Kids take part in Dog Man activities

Rosie loves after-school learning! She visits Des Moines Metro Kids care sites, DMPS 21st Century, afterschool clubs, and the YMCA's Starfish Academy. We always have a book tie in to fun, hands-on learning activities and challenges.

Recently at Metro Kids, we had Dog Man parties based on the programs DMPL had at the branches, complete with masks and I-Spy games. One fun game was "Dog Man Bingo", where kids went through the Dog Man books by Dav Pilkey to find characters. The kids were completely engrossed in the book instead of the game, because they couldn't stop reading!

Staff Spotlight

Maddie Bassman



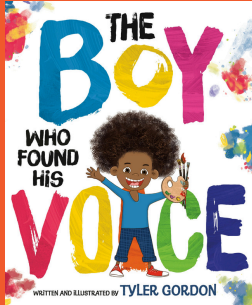
My name is Maddie Bassman, and I'm a Rosie Reader. I worked in childcare after college before joining the Americorps Vista program here in Des Moines. Being a part of Americorps, I realized I wanted to dedicate my career to acts of service.

I was fortunate to volunteer at DMPL in my free time, and learned more about being a librarian from the wonderful and caring staff. I used my Americorps education stipend to attend the University of Iowa's Library and Information Science graduate program.

I was able to work at the Iowa City Public Library and then the Cedar Rapids Public Library as a librarian before joining DMPL in 2013. I love being a Rosie Reader because it allows me to bring library joy into places all over our beautiful city with an amazing team of creative and talented coworkers and library staff. I also feel very lucky to be able to watch kids grow from year to year, and watch their interests change and grow, too.



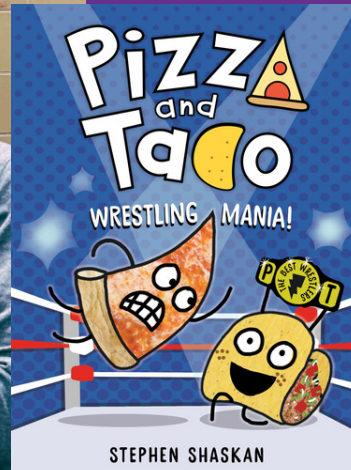
Rosie Reader Book Pick of the Month



***The Boy Who Found His Voice*, by Tyler Gordon**

This beautiful book highlights that learning (reading, writing, speaking) and creative self-expression start in safe and loving spaces, as experienced by this young author and artist (artist + activist). The author brings awareness and empowerment to kids that stutter, encouraging everyone who reads this book to be true to themselves and find their voices amidst their struggles.

KID
LIBRARIAN
★
BOOK
PICKS



***Pizza and Taco:
Wrestling Mania*, by
Stephen Shaskan**

We have Kid Librarians at each branch now! Allan is the South Side's Kid Librarian this month. He chose this hilarious book that's perfect for young readers who are transitioning to longer chapter books and graphic novels.

Find more books and movies that our Kid Librarians love at dmpl.org/kids. You can also apply to be a Kid Librarian there too!

Literacy Tip of the Month

Practicing drawing and cutting shapes can be a great way to strengthen young hands. It also is a great start to knowing letters. After shapes are drawn or cut out, you can have fun with matching them up with various letters in the alphabet. Encourage your child to fall in love with shapes today for better letter recognition tomorrow!

Great books that play with shapes in letters include: *Alphablock*, *The Hidden Alphabet*, and *ABC Shapes*.

