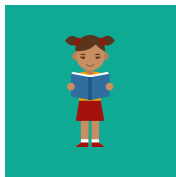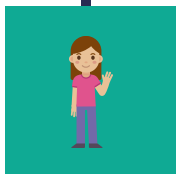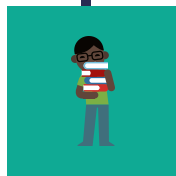# Virtual StoryTent 2022 Program Evaluation

Purpose

Virtual StoryTent is a mentoring program where young readers are paired with trained volunteers for weekly reading sessions. This evaluation study set out to better understand the impact of Virtual StoryTent on participating 1st graders' reading skills.

Methods

To better understand the ways in which 1st graders benefited from their participation, we drew on two data sets:
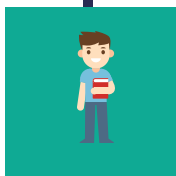
1. The first is a word identification reading assessment that volunteers give to readers as they begin and complete each program cycle. This tool is modeled on the San Diego Quick Assessment of Reading Ability. We compared each reader's first pre-program assessment to their final post-program results to measure their development.

2. The second data set comes from volunteers weekly logs that capture information about each reader, including their engagement, book level, and independent reading.

Results

Participating in 2 9-week programs was impactful for 1st graders. The data showed that after 2 programs:
- 71% were recognizing more words;
- 47% were reading at a higher book level;
- 40% found reading to be easier than before Virtual StoryTent.
- 31% were reading more books outside of their mentoring sessions;

2022 Virtual StoryTent Participation

- 186 readers
- 265 volunteers
- 2,342 hours spent reading together