



**UNITED WAY**  
Lowcountry

# EDUCATION IMPACT

## Empowering Young Readers Across Beaufort & Jasper Counties

A child learns to read until fourth grade, after that they read to learn. With the help of **volunteer tutors**, United Way of the Lowcountry's Early Grade Reading Initiative, **Read Indeed!**, works directly in the classroom with Pre-K through fourth graders to ensure children in Beaufort and Jasper counties are prepared for success in school.

### Our Approach

Since 2012, **United Way-trained volunteer tutors** have provided one-on-one, in-school literacy support students in partnership with Beaufort and Jasper County School Districts.

Students who are reading below grade level and would benefit from extra, individualized support are referred by school literacy coaches and teachers.

These sessions help children:

- Strengthen foundational reading skills
- Gain confidence and a love of learning
- Build positive, long-term attitudes toward education



### Our Early Literacy Programs

#### Pre-K: Play Partners

A Classroom-Aligned Literacy Support Program that uses dialogic reading to deepen language engagement, supports social-emotional skills, and offers hands-on, play-based learning aligned with the curriculum. Children also receive high-quality books to take home and build their own libraries.

#### K-1st Grade: Read to Me

An Interactive Read-Aloud Program that features expressive read-alouds to enhance vocabulary and oral language. Every child receives a book each week to build a home library and promote family literacy.

#### 1st-4th Grade: Structured Tutoring

This program provides individualized one-on-one support focused on phonemic awareness, fluency, comprehension, vocabulary, and confidence. It uses evidence-based, structured literacy practices to complement in-class instruction for students needing extra support to reach grade-level goals.

**The result:** By providing targeted support and building a love for reading from an early age, we are empowering children to succeed in school and lay the foundation for a more self-sufficient future.