Kristi Yamaguchi’s Always Dream designed its Always Reading program to encourage parents and children to read together, build regular reading routines, and create home environments that support early literacy.

**How Always Reading Works**

- Families receive weekly text messages with read-aloud strategies and participate in educational trainings.
- Families receive a tablet with a library of books, curated in alignment with the Always Reading curriculum.
- Families have access to a Book Coach who monitors tablet usage and offers ongoing support for at-home reading.

**2020-2021 By The Numbers...**

- **3** States reached (CA, HI, AZ)
- **10** Elementary schools
- **32** Kindergarten classrooms
- **501** Families enrolled in Always Reading
- **1278** Family members served
- **29%** Spanish as their primary language

**Parents Increase Their Knowledge of Family Reading**

- 91% of parents/caregivers report the program helped them understand that family reading helps their child develop their language.
- 88% of parents/caregivers report that they are better able to help their child develop a love of reading.

### States reached (CA, HI, AZ)

- Arizona: 86%
- California: 90%
- Hawaii: 96%
- ALL: 91%

### Family members served

- Arizona: 88%
- California: 84%
- Hawaii: 92%
- ALL: 88%
Parents Find it Easier to Engage With Their Child in Reading Time

- 90% of parents/caregivers report that it is easier to find books their child enjoys
- 90% of parents/caregivers report that it is easier to make read aloud time interesting for their child
- 84% of parents/caregivers report that it is easier to find time to read with their child

88% of parents/caregivers report that they are better able to engage in reading time with their child after participating in the program.

Families Spend More Time Reading Aloud

Guided by research and best practice, Always Reading encourages families to read at least 15 minutes a day, three times a week. By the end of the program, 84% of families report reading for at least 15 minutes every time they read with their child.

Students used the tablet an average of 200 minutes per month and read an average of 183 books on the tablet during the program.

Programming During The Pandemic

At a time when libraries were closed and many students struggled with online learning, the Always Reading provided access to much needed resources in the home environment, enabling a literacy-rich environment and empowering parents/caregivers to support their child’s learning. Additionally, the support of the Family Book Coach provided extra capacity for teachers with engaging families at home.
In Their Own Words…
Parents’ Praise for Always Reading

Our family uses the tablet to choose a variety of books, especially when the local library was closed due to Covid. We still had access to thousands of books.

We have enjoyed the variety of books and the way his vocabulary has improved. He has been using what he is learning in his writing. I’m very proud!

My husband read to my 5 year old girl about Martin Luther King and I thought she was not going to be interested. But at the end of each book my husband asked her questions and I was amazed at what she learned.

The difference is the helpful ideas that I got through text messages, such as asking questions while reading. I found it helpful to keep the attention of my son in the subject.

It has really increased my daughter’s interest in reading, and recognizing words like all her snap words.

Having access to so many books in the Always Reading program made our older children excited to read to our youngest child who was actually in the program. It really became about the whole family reading!

- Always Reading Parent