



Read Aloud Nebraska (RAN)
<http://www.readaloudnebraska.org/>
@ReadAloudNeb

Apply to become a Read Aloud Partner to show your commitment to the importance of reading aloud. Application period is April 1, 2018 through November 1, 2018.

<http://www.readaloudnebraska.org/schools-communities/>

Benefits of becoming a Read Aloud Partner:

In year 1:

- Recognition as a Read Aloud Partner on the Read Aloud Nebraska website
- Receive communication regarding reading activities/updates in Nebraska
- Opportunity to request free books (when available) to go home with children/youth who attend your afterschool program

Annual renewal includes:

- All of the above plus...
- Eligible to apply for annual **RAN mini-grants**.

Why read aloud to your students?

Reading aloud builds literacy skills including vocabulary development and comprehension skills, teaches concepts, instills a love of reading, and teaches writers at any stage of their development about writing. Reading aloud allows both the reader and listener to learn something new!

Ideas for incorporating reading aloud into your afterschool program:

- Partner with your school or community librarian to identify books for reading aloud in the afterschool program. Be sure to read books representing a variety of genres (e.g., fiction, nonfiction, poetry), variety of reading levels, and a variety of topics. The Read Aloud Nebraska website also has booklists with read aloud recommendations.
- Find a consistent time to read aloud each day (e.g., during snack, art activities, transitions, waiting for family members to arrive for student pick up).
- Implement a read-aloud club! Have students identify an audience, locate books for their intended audience, practice reading aloud, determine places to stop and ask a discussion question, and schedule times for reading. You and your students could record yourselves reading and share with audiences using technology.
- Do not be intimidated about reading aloud! Tips for reading aloud are posted on the Read Aloud Nebraska website.
- Read aloud to introduce new concepts during afterschool clubs.
- Read the first chapter or section of a book, and encourage students to check the book out of the library to read on their own.

Is there already a Read Aloud initiative in your community? If so, communicate with the organization to enhance and strengthen both of your read aloud goals. Current read aloud schools and communities are listed on the RAN website.