



Community Impact Report 2022-23

Child Engagements:	26,385 children attended a free book fair
Books given away:	over 58,132 at free book fairs & local events
Free Book Fairs:	63 across Texas
Volunteers:	over 68 active volunteers
Average event:	over 1,200 volunteer hours

Special Milestones in 2022-23:

Held our first Annual Fundraiser - An Adult Spelling with 6 teams from the community competing for the Grand Championship. This event was a huge success with 125 in attendance and raising almost \$10,000.

Partnered with the Ferguson Road Initiative to hold free book fairs at 5 Dallas ISD schools with the goal of reaching all 8 of the elementary schools that feed into Bryan Adams High School in Dallas. Regions Banks provided funding for the only charter school in the Ferguson Road Initiative's area.

Launched the Check the BOX program with 55 parents requesting a free packet of additional used books (cost of \$4.35 per packet of 2lbs per child).

Held our first free book fair in Tarrant County.

Recognized by Mesquite ISD School Board for providing free books to their Read Play Talk program for pre-school children.

Donated 125 summer reading kits to Child Care Group Dallas' preschool graduates as well as additional books for their child care providers.



National data from Scholastic Books informs the development of our programs:

- 91% of children like books they pick out themselves;
- 65% of children prefer to read a print book over a digital book;
- 50% of children want books that make them laugh; 40% to help them explore new worlds;
- 55% of parents say a book has helped their child get through a difficult time;
- 33% of teachers have time during the school day for independent reading;
- 41% of children read for fun 1- 4 times per week; this number shrinks as children age.

This last statistic is the most concerning to parents, educators, and us here at Book Drive for Kids. It reflects a downward spiral for several years of children spending less time with books. When children lessen their reading times, they are missing out on all that books have to offer, such as exercising their imaginations, learning about new people and places, and developing empathy by experiencing a life or story different from their own. Reading not only builds academic success but it also helps children develop soft skills they will use to navigate life. These skills are all the more important for the children we serve because they are battling other obstacles, such as poverty, learning English as their second language, and lack of parental engagement and/or education.

The latest data from the Texas Education Agency (2018-19) indicates that there are 479,050 children in Dallas, Denton, and Tarrant county who are described as economically disadvantaged. **These children are at the heart of our mission at Book Drive for Kids.** At Book Drive for Kids, our goal is to place books in the hands of each of these children, every year. We hope this gesture of love will encourage them to explore more books and evolve into life-long readers.



Your sponsorship allows us to work together to build a culture of literacy in our communities. Together, we can infuse knowledge, spark imagination, and share hope with the next generation.