



# Ready Readers

## Outcome Study-Executive Summary 2010



Here's what some of the teachers say about our program...

"It is so nice to have a program such as this. Children need literary enhancement, language and vocabulary to enhance their cognitive skills. They can not get enough of this. Ready Readers helps to provide all of this. We had a beautiful and dynamic volunteer. She enjoyed this and it showed."

"I think that Ready Readers is an excellent program for preschool children. I think that your volunteers have a lot of patience and seem to really enjoy the children. I would like to personally thank you for taking the time out to read to our children."

"I feel that the Ready Readers program is an excellent idea. The children like having Mrs. O come and read to them. They also like getting books as well. This is the only exposure some of the children get to explore books ... so any opportunity to get more exposure and more involved will be greatly appreciated."

[www.readyreaders-stlouis.com](http://www.readyreaders-stlouis.com)

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### THE PROGRAM

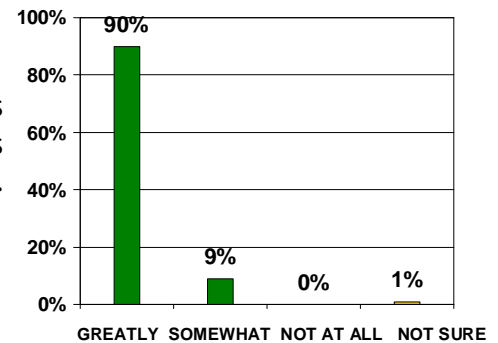
Ready Readers is a unique, nonprofit organization whose mission is to inspire preschool children from low-income communities to become readers by reading aloud to them and by increasing their exposure to quality books and reading-related activities. The program began in 1997, and has grown each year. During the 2009-2010 school year, 450 volunteers read every week to over 7,000 children at 116 early childhood sites.

### THE OUTCOME STUDY

In 2010, Westgate Research conducted a study to determine the effectiveness of the Ready Readers program. Teachers from three types of early childhood programs: St. Louis Public Schools, Head Start programs, and other early childhood programs, completed a questionnaire. The return rate was remarkably high at 63%. In addition, volunteer readers completed a different questionnaire.

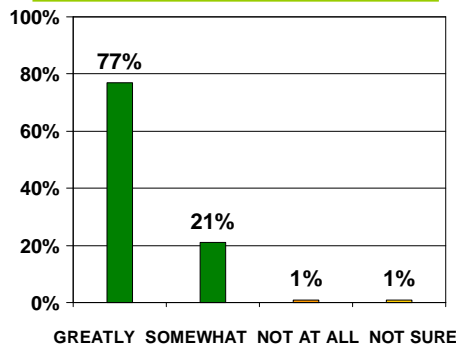
### THE RESULTS

Extent To Which Ready Readers Is Contributing to Enjoyment of Books



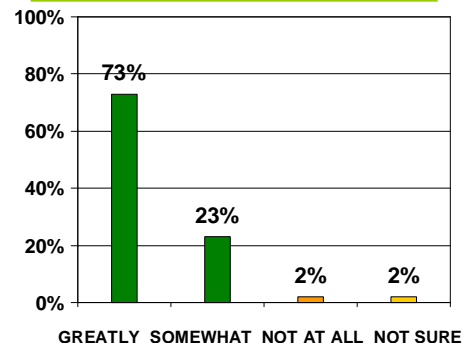
Ninety-nine percent (99%) of the teachers surveyed believed that Ready Readers contributes to their students' enjoyment of books.

Extent To Which Ready Readers Is Enhancing Literacy Skills



Ninety-eight percent (98%) of the teachers surveyed believed that Ready Readers enhances literacy skills including letter knowledge, print awareness, and phonological awareness.

Extent To Which Ready Readers Is Contributing to Cognitive Skills



Ninety-six percent (96%) of the teachers surveyed believed that Ready Readers contributes to the cognitive growth of children.

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