Joy of Reading Volunteer Guidelines

The Joy of Reading program is under the 501c3 of the Taos Lion's Club. While this program takes a little bit of dedicated time, it is very rewarding. We offer a one on one reading opportunity with children whose teachers have indicated that they would benefit from this activity. Our goal is to encourage the children to gain confidence in their reading ability and, in the process, discover the joy of reading.

Responsibilities of volunteers:

- 1. Read at the same time each week with two scheduled student on an individual basis for a total of 30 minutes per student. Schedules are fairly flexible and substitutes are available as desired and needed. Reading will take place during normal school times.
- 2. Complete the required finger printing for security screening. Your site Coordinator will help you with the process as it is different with each school.
- 3. Maintain regular communication with your school's Joy of Reading Site Coordinator about your schedule to allow adequate time for substitute replacement. Notification as soon as possible is desired.

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- 4. Read the suggested information sent via email about reading to children. Attend a 1-2 hour training session, when scheduled, about methods of encouraging reading.
- 5. Help maintain a positive environment for the children and fellow volunteers.
- 6. Maintain documentation on each student each week, so that substitutes will know how the student has been progressing or if there are any specific issues that need addressing.
- 7. A Site Coordinator will be present during most of the reading sessions to provide oversight and assistance as needed. A group leader will be identified if coordinator is not present.

- 8. Gifts for just your specific students are not allowed. If you would like to give gifts, they must be provided for every student within your student's classroom.
- 9. A close relationship can develop between volunteer and students. Due to that relationship, a child may choose to say something or give indication of an emotional, social, or physical abuse within their life. Any issue of concern about a child's welfare, no matter how small, must be reported immediately to the coordinator or the classroom teacher.
- 10. If you are ill, PLEASE do not participate in the Reading session to prevent spreading the illness to the children or the other volunteers. Do notify the coordinator that you will not be able to volunteer.
- 11. Any questions or concerns can always be discussed with your Site Coordinators.