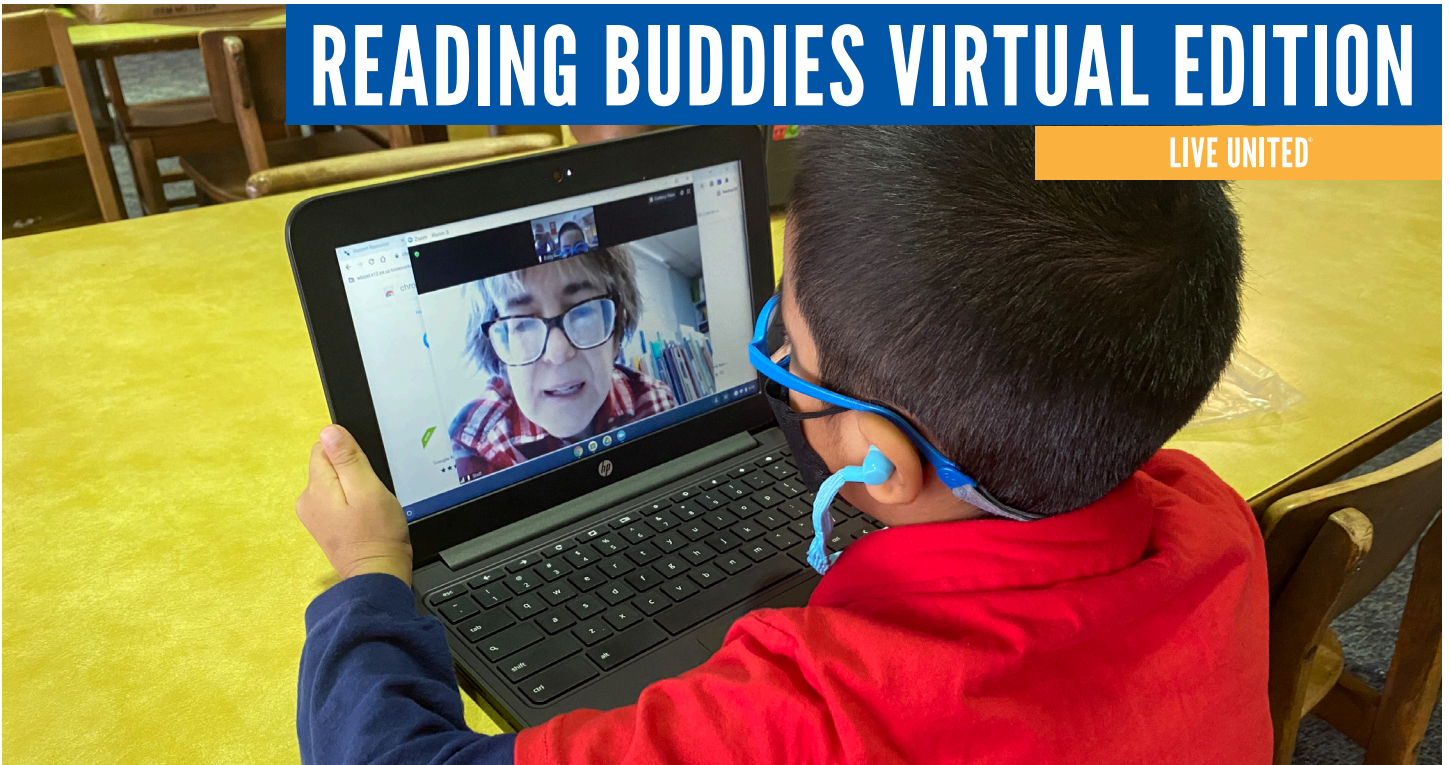


# READING BUDDIES VIRTUAL EDITION

LIVE UNITED



A SIMPLE CONCEPT WITH TANGIBLE RESULTS.

VOLUNTEERING TO READ WITH A CHILD MAKES A  
**LIFELONG IMPACT**  
— IN THEIR LIFE AND YOURS.

**MORE THAN HALF OF  
ELEMENTARY STUDENTS  
IN WYOMING VALLEY  
CANNOT READ  
PROFICIENTLY BY THE  
END OF THIRD GRADE**

**READING BUDDIES** is a unique volunteer-driven early literacy initiative that virtually connects mentors to students in first grade who need extra help. Students receive individual attention along with access to free books. The program is designed to improve students' fundamental building blocks of early literacy.

**MANY CHILDREN IN POVERTY** do not live in literacy-rich environments. Spending time and sharing books with role models allows these children to connect with the world of reading in a new and special way. Reading Buddies volunteers see the importance of early education first-hand.

**YOU CAN HELP** children throughout the Wyoming Valley by volunteering as a mentor for Reading Buddies or helping to sponsor the Reading Buddies initiative. By volunteering virtually just ONE HOUR a week via Zoom, you can help children improve their literacy skills, build their self-confidence, and set them on a path to success.



United Way  
of Wyoming Valley

[unitedwaywb.org](http://unitedwaywb.org)