



United Way of
West Central Mississippi

Post-COVID Education Enhancement Program 2022-2023 Academic Year

Program Description

This literacy program is designed to accelerate reading achievement for children from economically disadvantaged families in Vicksburg, Mississippi, by providing the following support for struggling readers: 1) an evidence-based intervention with explicit, systematic academic assistance in reading; 2) a student-centered, personalized, literacy experience; 3) a new book every week matched to their interest, grade, and Lexile® reading level to increase book ownership; 4) a meaningful connection with a role model for academic, social, and emotional support.

Schools Served

Dana Road Elementary
Sherman Elementary
Vicksburg Intermediate
Warren Central Intermediate

Key Contributions

50 Tutors were trained and supported through this program.

Over 3,225 grade-level appropriate, high interest books provided to participating students to keep.

550

**STUDENTS
ENROLLED**

10.5

**TOTAL READING
GROWTH IN
MONTHS**
USING IREADY READING DATA

DOSAGE

The United Way of West Central Mississippi's Post-Covid Educational Enhancement Program began in November 2022 and ended in April 2023. An average of 30 sessions across 16 weeks occurred at each site, with each session lasting approximately 45 minutes. This equates to **more than 22 additional hours of high quality reading instruction** provided to each participating student.

GROWTH

Students are expected to show growth, or an increase in scale score, from the beginning of the school year to the end, but often, students who struggle or enter a grade behind show minimal if any growth, causing the gap between them and their proficient peers to widen. While nearly all of the 215 students with complete data demonstrated growth in this program, the percentage of students with growth equivalent to 9 or more months were:

56% of Kindergarteners	57% Third Graders
63% of First Graders	65% Fourth Graders
97% of Second Graders	38% Fifth Graders

A total of **58 students** in the program grew 18 months or more during this program term, far exceeding typical growth.

FOR MORE INFORMATION, CONTACT:

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