

The Volunteer Experience

Experience Corps Tempe is an intergenerational literacy program to help first- through third-grade students become proficient readers. We provide thorough training and work with each school to make the best volunteer-student match. Volunteers meet with their students twice a week for 30-minute sessions during the school year.

Learn about Volunteering

We look for adults 50+ who love making a difference in their community and a child's life. Please join us for an informational session to learn more. And bring a friend! Of those surveyed, 93% would recommend our program to others.

Time
9:30 – 10:30 a.m.
Dates in 2024
Friday, March 29
Friday, April 12
Friday, April 26
Location

Tempe Public Library 3500 S. Rural Rd, downstairs Ironwood Room

"This is such a rewarding experience. In between our reading, there are so many smiles, high fives and 'I did it' moments. I love seeing my students' confidence grow with each new word or sentence conquered!"

– Experience Corps volunteer

About us:

Experience Corps Tempe is affiliated with the national AARP Foundation Experience Corps. Since 2006, the Corps has been working with Tempe elementary schools and now has programs in 17 schools within the Tempe Elementary and Kyrene school districts.

Contact:

Candice Heath: 480-350-5846 or Candice_heath@tempe.gov

Office location:

Westside Multigenerational Center • 715 W. 5th St. • Tempe, AZ 85281

Trainings and Student Sessions

Trainings are held at the Tempe Public Library and student sessions at participating schools.

Age 50+? Enjoy volunteering?

You can help a child become a confident reader. Join AARP Foundation Experience Corps Tempe

The Two Important Reading Skills

During your sessions, the focus is on developing two important literacy skills: **Fluency** - the ability to read text at a conversational pace.

Accuracy – the ability to read words correctly.

Our interactions with students' families during the 2022-23 school year show consistent success and growth in our students' reading.

97% of students improved in fluency with 59% at or above grade level by the end of the school year.

85% of students improved in accuracy with 70% at or above grade level by the end of the school year.

We Partner with Families

In addition to their school teachers and our volunteer tutors, students get support from their families to continue strengthening their reading skills. We help families build a home library, offer literacy tips, send a monthly newsletter and hold family engagement events throughout the school year.

"It is amazing that you are providing this opportunity to help students become better readers"

– parent of student in the program



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