

Celebration of the ‘5000’—April 2012

Reading Recovery trained teachers have worked one-to-one with more than 5,000 first graders having difficulty learning to read and write during the last nineteen years—1993-2012. The Dumas Site includes the districts of Borger, Dumas, Friona, Gruver, Pampa and Spearman.

A celebration of teaching 5000 students was held in Dumas in April, 2012. Seventy-five administrators, former students including Stetson Jones (1993-1994), Jake Weatherford (2004-2005), and Riley Blansett (Borger-2001-2002), and Reading Recovery teachers were in attendance. Festivities included former Reading Recovery students sharing their success stories, observation of Reading Recovery lessons, and the release of 100 balloons with each balloon representing fifty students.

Reading Recovery delivers measurable results in weeks not years. After a full series of lessons, 84 percent of the students have been able to read at or above grade level. Reading Recovery has required data collection and research since its beginning, making it the most fully researched and documented intervention in the world. Independent reviews of research by the What Works Clearinghouse and the National Center on Response to Intervention have validated Reading Recovery’s effectiveness. In addition to this strong research evidence, the International Data Evaluation Center at The Ohio State University collects and reports results annually for each child in Reading Recovery.

Behind the results is an unyielding dedication to teacher professional development, required to ensure that teachers become leaders and experts who positively affect teaching practiced in their schools and districts. For the next three years the Reading Recovery training will be totally funded through a federal grant. The training is available to all districts.

“Those of us in Reading Recovery have seen it make a remarkable impact in districts, schools, and most importantly, in the lives of children and families.”