

TUTORS FOR KIDS, INC.

November 2019

Excited Children Eager to Learn
Celebrating the 11th year of Tutoring Children



Tutors for Kids, Inc. is a 501(c) (3) nonprofit community-based organization of volunteers who support the local educational process.

Our Mission: Meeting student educational needs as defined by the teacher through suitable and trained volunteer tutors in the local,

Tri-county Title 1 public schools as determined by the Board of Directors.

In Memoriam – It is with very sad hearts that we learn of the passing of Lynn Leavitt, a dedicated long-time tutor and a member of the Tutors for Kids Board of Directors. Lynn tutored at Wildwood Elementary School for seven years, both in the classroom and in the Media Center. A former teacher, she was enthusiastic of the mission and work of Tutors for Kids. Our sympathies go to her husband, Hank, also a tutor at Wildwood Elementary School. We will miss Lynn tremendously.

Thanksgiving – We have so much to be thankful for. This may not have been a great year for everybody but think of the many years in the past that were great years.

Here at Tutors for Kids, we say thank you a thousand times. You have been so generous with your time and your creativity. We have trained over 100 new tutor applicants so far this year. This puts us past the 500-tutor mark at the start of the year.

We can answer the requests of some of the principals for more tutors. For example, at Beverly Shores the new principal wants to place a tutor in every Grade K – 2 every day. That means five tutors in each grade or 15 tutors each day multiplied by 5 days equals. We as adults know our ‘times tables’; so, do the math. That is a huge order, but we are more than 2/3 of the way to fulfilling the principal’s request. See the below article for those additional schools that still need help.

Tutors – Have you been approved by your county and completed the new tutor orientation session, but are still waiting for placement with a teacher?? Be sure to stay in touch with your STC and explain your situation. If you do not know the name of your STC, please drop an email to Tutors@tutors4kids.org and explain your situation.

Let’s Celebrate the Children We Work With – Mark your calendar for **December 11, 3:00 at Lake Miona Rec Center**. This is our holiday celebration and this year we are celebrating the children we work with.

Upon looking into the face of a child, something magical is staring back at you. Their innate essence of innocence, along with essential honest, and their natural ability to recognize fairness and inequality are just a few of the many gifts children deliver on daily basis.

During this season of giving, one of our goals, as tutors, is to appreciate the gifts children offer to the world around them. They hold the future. And, with our support, guidance, and

leadership, our future will be strong!! We will explore “*The Gifts that Children Give Us.*”

Talking Books – Celebrating T4K’s completion of 10 years of tutoring we are launching the Talking Books Project, 2020 for kindergarten students who are being tutored this year. Thanks to the generosity of Dr. Thi Tran and the Friends of the Villages Library we can significantly expand our program. The material we use is the Paw Patrol series of eight books, with a computer style ‘tablet’ (Me-Reader). At the end of the eight-week session, the participant students keep the books and the tablet to take home and use.



Left to right: Frank Russo, Carolyn Ruhe, Marilyn Iverson (President of the Friends of the Villages Library), Eileen Honohan

Calling all Tutors at Grade K for Talking Books - FYI – These Me-Readers and the Paw Patrol were a HUGE success last year in our pilot program at Rimes Early Learning Center. .SO, if you tutor in Grade K and work with students one-on-one or with several students in a small group we want you to participate. Let us know your name, school where you tutor, email, phone, and most important your home address, (Why your street address? We plan to send the six sets {5 plus 1 for coaching} of Paw Patrol Me-Readers directly to your home address) Send this information by email to our Board of Director’s Chair, Eileen Honohan at:

eileen.honohan@tutorsforkidsinc.org

We’ll take it from there. You will receive a Five Step “How to Coach the Talking Books” sheet based on the experiences of the tutors/teachers/ students in last year’s pilot. It will include a suggested timeline, tips for coaching, and more.

If you want to participate - send in your info by December 31, 2019. We want to start the program by the first of March and ends by the second week in May. **Note: this does not demand an extra day of tutoring, but we hope that you will**

use Paw Patrol on your regular tutoring day with your regular students.

What we can learn from the state of our nation's education

– We have a lot to learn about the American Education system. In the 1950s and 1960s, we were the envy of the world. We ranked numbers one and two in math and reading. Over the last 50+ years, several factors have yielded a dramatic slide in our educational system. Here are a few of the issues:

1. The number of college graduates going into teaching has fallen dramatically. As we entered the new century, we had the lowest number ever of college students selecting teaching as their profession.
2. The salary scale for new teachers in most states ranks well below the starting salaries in other professions.
3. Many students coming out of college today have large student loan debts that cannot be paid off by low teacher salaries. So, graduates look elsewhere for their careers.
4. Family structures have changed especially those many families living at or below the poverty. They are working several jobs and have very little time to sit with children for homework and reading.

To read more and see which states show an unexpected approval and why; put your cursor on the blue link below and hit ctrl + click: <https://wapo.st/2WBfP35>

When do Children start Counting – Surprisingly Infants around six months have a sense of counting even though they cannot express it in words. Obviously, it could be many years before they can say their 'A B Cs' or rattle off numbers from 1 – 10. But they can demonstrate it in actions. Read the following article from studies done at Johns Hopkins University and published in the Washington Post.

Put your cursor on the blue link below and hit ctrl + click <https://www.washingtonpost.com/education/2019/10/28/children-understand-fundamental-aspect-about-counting-long-before-they-can-say-numbers-out-loud-researcher-says/>

Yale Study Says Babies Have Built-In Developing Sense of Morality

Written by Peter J. Smith | Wednesday, May 12, 2010

“Researchers in baby psychology at Yale University in New Haven, Connecticut say that they have gathered evidence that suggests babies demonstrate a “rudimentary” moral sense very soon after they are born, indicating that morality may be hardwired into human beings from the very beginning.”

Copy and Paste the link below into your browser to read the full article. <https://www.theaquilareport.com/yale-study-says-babies-have-built-in-developing-sense-of-morality/>

An Additional Tutor Orientation Date – Good news!! We have added an additional orientation date January 21, 2020 at Belvedere Library off SR 466 (at CVS, turn at the light). New tutors - you selected one of these dates when you talked with our phone team. Their phone number is 352-568-5843.

- Tuesday, November 19 - 9:30 AM – 12:30 PM
- Thursday, December 5 - 1 – 4 PM

- Thursday January 21 from 9:30 – 12:30

Do You Speak a Little Spanish? - If you speak a little or are very proficient in Spanish, Wildwood Middle High School needs your immediate help? Students are from Guatemala who speak only Spanish want to learn English and catch up on their grades. But the students want to learn both English and their studies. If you can help, please email Josie Morello at J.Morello@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Hello - Wildwood Tutors – You have a GREAT group of School Tutor Coordinators (STCs) who help the tutors at the school. And, we need your help. There are over 100 tutors at Wildwood, and we need two additional STCs for Grades 4 and Grade 5. We will train you If you can help email Debbie Mailloux at debbie.mailloux@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Schools that still need Tutors – **Important Note:**

- IF you are a new tutor and are interested call: 352-568-5843
- IF you are a current tutor and want to do more, contact the STC directly.

Sumter County – Wildwood Elementary School Kindergarten

- English Language Arts (ELA – reading) any day Monday - Thursday between 8 - 10:30 AM
- Math - two tutors needed for any day Monday - Thursday 11:30 AM - 1:15 PM

Rhonda Casey at Rhonda.Casey@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Grade 2

- English Language Arts (ELA – reading) on Wed 10:30 - 11:30

Grades 1 and 2

A teacher who works in both first and second would like a tutor to help with:

- Centers - Monday – Wednesday - 9:45 - 11:30.

Ann Rosati at ann.rosati@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Grades 3 and 5

- English Language Arts (ELA – reading) 3rd Grade - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday.
- 5th Grade Math - on any day. Basic fundamentals: times tables, place values, multiplication, intro long division.

Debbie Mailloux at debbie.mailloux@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Lake County – Beverly Shores Elementary Grades Kindergarten - 3

10 more tutors, mostly Mondays and Fridays - any time of day or all day.

Robert Navarre at Bob.Navarre@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Lake County - Fruitland Park Elementary Grades 3 – 4

- 2 or 3 tutors for afternoon for math or reading.

Mary Wilson at mary.wilson@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Lake County - Leesburg Elementary Grade 4 - 5

English Language Arts (ELA – reading_

Grade 5

- Math - Basic fundamentals: times tables, place values, multiplication, intro long division.

Dee Vermeulen at Dee@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Lake County – Villages Elementary Grade 1

English Language Arts (ELA – reading)

Grade 1 Spanish-speaking student. 8:45-9:30 Tues. or Wed (or both)

Grades 1 and 2

English Language Arts (ELA – reading) Grade 1 and 2

Carol Mooar at carol.mooar@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Marion County – Belleview Elementary

Tutors needed for 2-3 teachers in first or second grade.

STC Suzan Cresto at Cresto2464@gmail.com

Marion County - Stanton Weirsdale Elementary

There are nine additional teachers this year.

- Many tutors are needed in Grades K – 3.
- A few tutors are needed in Grades 4 – 5

STC: Ruth Bollinger at ruth.bollinger@embarqmail.com

STC: Ellen Millar at ellenjoan.millar@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Marion County – Belleview Santos Elementary

Grade 3

Two tutors needed: one for Ms. Kim Stagner - any day after 12 noon; one for Ms. Tara Hunter.

Georgia Iliff at georgia.iliff@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Media Center

Needs someone to help students and organize books.

Georgia Iliff at georgia.iliff@tutorsforkidsinc.org

Grants and Donations – The Villages Pops Chorus Folksingers gave a successful, sold-out Hootenanny (Hoot 6) and generously donated \$3,500 to Tutors for Kids. Thank you!!

This Month's Featured School

Harbour View Elementary – located at 8445 SE 147th Place Summerfield, FL 34491. Coming from the south on SR 301 at the blinking light just before the Summerfield Post office turn right on to SE 147th Place. Follow the road over the train tracks and the school will be on your left about ½ mile ahead.

The school was opened in 1990 and serves 800 plus students in grades PreK through 5th grade with almost 100 faculty and support staff. In the state ranking, Harbour View achieved a grade “C” for 2018 -2019.

Rob Hensel is in his second year as principal. Like each principal, he hopes to move his school beyond a “C” grade. To do so he knows that he will need significant help beyond school resources. Tutors for Kids is in its eighth year working with students at Harbour View. This year there are 38 + active tutors at the school helping the school reach its Grade “B” score.

Can You Make a Difference? - Tutors and teachers often wonder if what they say can make a difference. Leesburg tutor, Karen Heinen, relates a story she heard from an author about a first-grade teacher inspiring a young author.

“Upon receiving an award for her very first novel, a young author was asked how did she decide to become a writer. She replied, ‘When I was in first grade and writing my first few sentences, my teacher leaned over and looked down at my paper and said very kindly: that’s an excellent beginning - you will be a great storyteller.’”

Everyone knows a first-grade teacher would never lie to you.

SUPPORT OUR SUPPORTERS

Rotary Club of the Villages – Evening – Several members of this Rotary club are tutoring at Harbour View Elementary – and the club has “adopted” Harbour View. Their 5th annual Private Polo BBQ Mercedes Car Show is **November 16**. Interact with horses and players and learn about polo. For tickets contact Mike Roth at 513-646-6523

The Villages Pops Chorus – Upcoming concert: December 2 – 3:00 and 6:00 – “That’s What Christmas Means to Me”

REPEAT - HELP WANTED - Do you have organizational skills but may not want to tutor? “It takes a village” to keep things going “behind the scenes.” If you can help in one of these areas, email to: tutors@tutors4kids.org

1. **Write and Send Our Monthly Newsletter** - Two or three volunteers to develop, write, and send our monthly newsletter.

Amazon Smile – Does Smile help? Yes, yes, yes. When you shop using the link below, you do not pay any more, but we do get a small donation for everything you purchase. Thank you <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-4815598>

Phone for Tutors for Kids, Inc.

352-568-5843

Web: www.tutorsforkidsinc.org

Email: tutors@tutors4kids.org

2019 Book Grant for Lake and Sumter Counties from:



2019-2020 Book Grants for Tutors for Kids from:



Amazon Smile: <http://smile.amazon.com/ch/45-4815598>