

Reading is one of the most basic survival skills in our society, a roadmap to a world of exploration. Failure to read is connected to poor academic performance. When a child discovers early in life the pleasures of reading, a window to the universe is opened and, along the way, self-confidence, critical thinking abilities and a host of other traits essential in school and in life are uncovered.

Your involvement in *Good Friends* will do more than improve the reading level of children. It will improve their attitude, self-esteem, listening skills, and their imagination.

Our goals for each child is to:

- Assist with academic skills
- Encourage improvement
- Serve as a friend



Mission Statement

Building self-esteem through adult volunteer friendship

*Sponsored by
Charlotte County Government*

Mid-County Regional Library
Library Youth Services
2050 Forrest Nelson Blvd.
Port Charlotte, FL 33952

Phone: 941-613-3170 or 941-613-3178
Email: goodfriends61@yahoo.com



**A VOLUNTEER READING
TUTOR/MENTOR PROGRAM**



“This program has been such a blessing to me. I feel that I fill a genuine need and the relationship with each child is so rewarding that I pale to describe it.”

Richard Hitchcock

You Can Make a Difference ☺ Be a Volunteer

VOLUNTEER INFORMATION

Time Commitment

One hour, once a week with one child.

Training

If you can read, you already possess half of what it takes to be a *Good Friend* Volunteer.

Volunteers must attend a 3-hour orientation/training session before being matched with a student.

Locations & Hours

Mid-County Library

- Tuesday-Thursday 12 noon-8 pm
- Wednesday-Friday 10 am-6 pm
- Saturday 9 am-5 pm

Charlotte County Elementary Schools

Regular school operating hours

GOOD
FRIENDS™



Program Objectives

- Increase student reading level
- Motivate student to improve performance
- Praise student for accomplishments
- Enhance mentoring relationship with student
- Expand partnerships of public library with local schools and community volunteers
- Multiply number of students who succeed in educational arena



My daughter has been with the program for three years and I have seen a dramatic increase, not only in her ability to read, but also her self-confidence. She looks forward to her session every week. Her volunteer works with her one-on-one and takes the time to provide a positive learning experience. We feel fortunate that we are part of the Good Friends program.

Remember

*It take a village to raise
its children*