

## Make a Donation

Your gift to Manatee Reads! helps change the lives of adults who want to become self sufficient, improve their lives and their families' lives, and make a meaningful contribution to our community.

## Please help Manatee Reads! share the power of literacy.

The Literacy Council of Manatee County, Inc. (dba Manatee Reads!) is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. We receive no local, state, or federal funding. We are almost completely volunteer operated. We depend on the generosity of your tax-deductible gift to provide the support and instruction our students need to succeed.

## 100% of donations go to Manatee Reads!

Gifts for our tutoring program help men and women build a better life. Your financial investment supports their hard work to learn literacy skills that many of us take for granted.

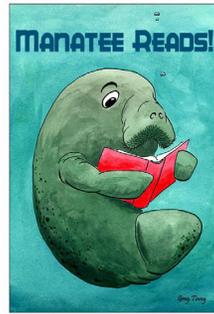
Literacy has the power to reduce crime, injustice, discrimination, unemployment, and dependence on public assistance. The adults who gather their courage and come to us desperately want to learn and are willing to commit to studying.

## Ways to Give

- One-Time or Recurring Donation
- Tribute Gift
- Sponsor a Learner
- Planned Giving & Stock Transfers
- In-Kind Donations of Time or Supplies
- Shop with AmazonSmile and a portion of your purchases will go The Literacy Council of Manatee County, Inc.

Make checks payable to Manatee Reads!  
Contact our office for more donation details.

**Your support is greatly appreciated!**



# MANATEE READS!

## Changing Lives ...



## One Book at a Time

A local volunteer-based nonprofit organization providing free Adult English Literacy Tutoring

**Learn More:**

941-746-8197

manatee-literacy.org

 ManateeLiteracy

 @Manatee\_Reads

## Manatee Reads!

United Way Building  
1701 Tamiami Trail, Suite 5  
Bradenton, FL 34205

Open Monday-Thursday  
10 a.m. to 4 p.m.

941-746-8197

admin@manatee-literacy.org  
www.manatee-literacy.org

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[www.twitter.com/Manatee\\_Reads](http://www.twitter.com/Manatee_Reads)

**Manatee Reads!**

**Changing Lives One Book at a Time!**

## Why be a tutor?

It enriches your life while changing the life of the adult you tutor!

And the results of your efforts do not stop there...

When you help adults reach their educational goals, you help their families—and our community—grow stronger.

Adults throughout Manatee County want and need to learn to read and write better, or learn English as a second language. You can help them gain the basic literacy skills they need succeed as workers, parents, and community citizens.

### But I'm not a teacher...

No teaching or tutoring experience necessary. Our volunteer tutors come from all walks of life. Manatee Reads! provides tutor training and ongoing support for all volunteer tutors. Our resource library includes a variety of textbooks, workbooks, and other materials for you to use with your student.

### But I only speak English...

While many of our students are non-English speakers, you will be matched with a student you can communicate with on a basic level.

### But I don't have that much time...

On average, tutors meet with their learners 1-2 times each week. Tutoring is a long-term commitment, but there is no set length of time for tutoring.

### More Questions?

[www.manatee-literacy.org/faq.html](http://www.manatee-literacy.org/faq.html)

### Apply Today!

[www.manatee-literacy.org/volunteer.html](http://www.manatee-literacy.org/volunteer.html)

Approximately **1 in 5** Manatee County residents is **functionally illiterate\***



Florida has the **third lowest** adult literacy level in the country\*.

**Until every Manatee County adult can read this, we need your help!**

### Why Literacy?

- Literacy is the key to education, financial stability, health, relationships, and empowerment. It is the foundation of self-sufficiency and lifelong success.
- With limited literacy, everyday tasks become real challenges:
  - » Reading product labels and street signs
  - » Filling out job applications
  - » Writing checks and paying bills
  - » Grocery shopping
  - » Reading to children
  - » Speaking with a child's teacher
  - » Renting an apartment
  - » Going to the doctor
- For those who cannot speak English, the problem is even worse. Day-to-day life is terrifying, overwhelming, and isolating.
- Families suffer too. Children's literacy levels are strongly linked to parents' educational levels.

**The Manatee Reads! Mission**  
Empowering Manatee County residents to independence through literacy.

\*These findings come from the most recent National Assessment of Adult Literacy (NAAL), a survey of more than 19,000 Americans ages 16 and older.

## Need English help?

Services are provided **confidentially** and **free of charge** to Manatee County adults regardless of race, creed, color, sex, national origin, or socio-economic status.

### How It Works

Manatee Reads! matches learners with volunteer tutors for one-on-one lessons. Some group classes are available.

### Getting Started

Stop by the Manatee Reads! office to fill out an application. After that, an evaluator will assess your English so that your tutor will know where to begin.

## Manatee Reads! Programs

### American Basic English

For adults who are native English speakers, but need help with reading, writing, and grammar.

### English-as-a-Second Language

For adults who are not native English speakers and need help with reading, writing, and communicating in English.

### Workplace Literacy

Workplace-specific classes that are customized for English Language Learners.

### Citizenship

Classes to help those seeking U.S. Citizenship prepare for the Naturalization Test.

**Better English can change your life!**  
**Contact Manatee Reads!**