



INTERMOUNTAIN  
THERAPY ANIMALS



[www.therapyanimals.org](http://www.therapyanimals.org)

R.E.A.D.<sup>®</sup>, the Reading Education Assistance Dogs (R.E.A.D.), program improves children's reading and communication skills by employing a powerful method: reading to a dog. But not just any dog. R.E.A.D. dogs are registered therapy animals who volunteer with their owner/handlers as a team, going to schools, libraries and many other settings as reading companions for children.

Intermountain Therapy Animals, a nonprofit organization, launched R.E.A.D. in 1999 as the first comprehensive literacy program built around the appealing idea of reading to dogs, and the program has been spreading rapidly and happily ever since!

Linda Hanson, the owner and handler of Hokie, a Reading Education Assistance Dog (R.E.A.D), will be at Riverside again this year in the North Building. On occasion students may visit with Hokie during their library time.

We are aware of allergies and the concerns some parents may have about a dog in the immediate area. Please sign the permission slip below and return it to school.

-----Detach and Return Bottom Portion-----

**R.E.A.D. Permission**  
**2018-2019**

\_\_\_\_ Yes, I give permission for my child to be in the vicinity of Hokie.

\_\_\_\_ No, I do not give my child permission to be in the vicinity of Hokie.

\_\_\_\_\_  
Student's Name (please print)

\_\_\_\_\_  
Parent's Signature