

K-9 Reading Buddies Mentor Process

K-9 Reading Buddies of the North Shore is based on Intermountain Therapy Animals R.E.A.D. literacy program. View more about the R.E.A.D.® program at: <https://therapyanimals.org/read/>

Therapy dog handlers must have current therapy dog certification by either Alliance of Therapy Dogs, or another approved registry organization, and maintain good standing.

Track your progress by marking an “X” in the column beside each item.

Our Mentor process, while subject to change, is as follows:

	<p>Download On-line Application documents. Sign and email as per instructions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Mentor Biography • Standards & Dismissal • Mentor Process Checklist • Photo Consent
	2. Complete all paperwork and email to info@k9readingbuddies.org prior to your first scheduled meeting with the K-9 Reading Buddies Representative. If applicable, include a scanned copy of your therapy registry's completed and signed test form.
	3. An in-person Orientation Meeting will be scheduled to share how the program works, impart information, and answer questions. You will receive a K-9 Reading Buddies Training Manual that includes information on How to Become a K-9 Reading Buddy Team.
	<p>4. A Team membership fee of \$35 will be collected at the Orientation Meeting. For a couple or family, membership is \$55. For Associate Members without a dog, the cost is \$20. Each are annual fees.</p> <p>K9RBNS t-shirt ~ \$25 - \$35</p> <p>K9RB Bandana ~ \$15</p> <p>Write 3 separate checks for each item payable to K9RBNS.</p>
	5. Bring a photocopy of your current registered therapy membership identification card(s) to the Orientation Meeting if it has not already been emailed to info@k9readingbuddies.org .
	7. Attend an interactive Training Class <u>without</u> your dog. If a training class isn't available, a virtual class may be offered.
	9. During the on-boarding process, 3 shadow visits without your dog are required to meet and observe current K-9 Reading Buddy Teams in a reading or community outreach setting.
	Shadow Visit #1 Date/Location:
	Shadow Visit #2 Date/Location:
	Shadow Visit #3 Date/Location:

	<p>10. After graduation - We will connect you with our pro bono photographer for your dog's picture. If the photographer is not available, please follow these instructions to take your dog's photo. Using a Hi-Resolution setting on your camera, take a daylight photo of your dog wearing the pressed "Reading Buddy" bandana in a natural outdoor setting that is consistent with other K9RB photos. (See samples below). Avoid shadows on your dog. No leash, collar or tags should be in view. The background should either be green shrubbery or flowers that complement your dog. Frame the photo for a full body shot with your dog in a sit position. We are looking for a relaxed and happy looking dog photo. Email the photo to info@k9readingbuddies.org.</p> <div data-bbox="289 495 456 726"></div> <div data-bbox="539 495 703 726"></div> <div data-bbox="787 495 941 726"></div> <div data-bbox="1034 495 1208 726"></div>
	<p>11. After graduation - You will receive a K-9 Reading Buddies badge with name and dog's picture on it.</p>
	<p>12. After graduation - You will receive custom bookmarks with your dog's picture to distribute to children who read to your dog.</p>
	<p>13. After graduation - You will receive an emailed sticker template with your dog's picture that says, "I Read to 'Rover', My K-9 Reading Buddy" to print at home for distribution to children who read to your dog. Use Avery sticker number label # 8253 to print 8163 software template layout.</p>
	<p>14. After graduation - Sign up for volunteer events.</p>
	<p>15. Before visiting any library location for the first time, schedule an introductory visit with the youth librarian, bringing your dog in his therapy dog tag and ensuring that both of you are wearing your branded attire.</p>

K-9 Reading Buddy teams, are required to:

- wear your K-9 Reading Buddies of the North Shore(K9RBNS) t-shirt or other branded clothing.
- wear your K9RBNS badge
- have your dog wear his therapy dog tag, 4-foot leash and K9RBNS bandana
- provide a mat for your dog and children to sit on while being read to
- bring your K9RBNS activity bag

K-9 Reading Buddies of the North Shore will provide you with:

- opportunities to volunteer at local schools, preschools and libraries
- opportunities to participate in community outreach activities that include, but are not limited to:
 - Stress Relief clinics at area high schools
 - Events
 - Camps and Festivals