

“Education is not the filling of a bucket but the lighting of a fire”

William Butler Yeats



We Need Help

Volunteers needed!!

Do you have a well behaved dog and a few of hours spare a week?

Donations Needed

Would you like to sponsor a Dog Team or make a donation to keep Story Dogs in schools?

If so, contact Leah or Janine or visit our web site

[www.storydogs.org.au](http://www.storydogs.org.au)



'Sam', the Story Dog, loves being read to by a student.



Fun Reading  Reading for Life

Our mission is to make reading fun for children so they become confident, lifelong readers.



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'Honey' is a fantastic listener, and loves being read to.

# Dogs make reading FUN!

**Story Dogs** is a reading support program where selected children read to an accredited dog and its owner.

Reading sessions take place in a quiet area of the school such as the library or the verandah outside the classroom. A reading session is approximately 20 minutes long, where each child is one-on-one with the dog team .

The non-judgmental, loving nature of dogs gives this program its magic. Children relax, open up, try harder and *have fun* reading with a dog.



## When students read to a dog; the outcomes are amazing:

- They have FUN
- They are not judged
- Their focus improves
- Their reading skills increase
- Their confidence soars

## What teachers say about the Story Dogs program:

- "Children are more confident and 'having a go' which has led to more fluency."
- "Children are excited about going to read which is great. That is half the battle of getting them to read."
- "It was the only time I received every permission note back the next day!"

## The Dogs

All breeds are used except for restricted dog breeds. The dog's temperament, obedience and willingness is of utmost importance.

Dogs must pass a certification test carried out by a certified Dogs NSW trainer, as well as being immaculately groomed with regular vet checks.

Some of our dogs include, Labradors, Rhodesian Ridgebacks, Tibetan Spaniels, Australian Bulldogs, Fox Terriers, Greyhounds and many cross breeds.



Wilson ready for another reading session