

**Every Child a Reader Escambia
(ECARE)**

United Way Funded Program:
ReadingPals

Funding Amount: \$15,000
1-year grant



Description of Program Services: The goal of the ReadingPal program is to help build strong early literacy skills necessary for kindergarten success.

Impact Area: Education

Significant Statistics: Research shows that students who repeat one or more grades between kindergarten and fourth grade are almost five times more likely to drop out of school. The goal of the Reading Pal program is to help students build strong early literacy skills necessary for kindergarten success. Trained volunteers use themed literacy kits including books, manipulatives, puzzles and games to engage children in age appropriate learning activities for at least 45 minutes one day per week for the school year. The Reading Pal shares in excitement and enthusiasm for reading to encourage self-motivation in the student to learn to read.

<http://www.escambiareads.org/>