

## WORDS WITH WINGS FOR COOK CHILDREN'S MEDICAL CENTER SOUTHLAKE AREA ALUMNAE CLUB - SEPTEMBER 2020

Cook Children's Medical Center has a terrific literacy program that focuses on reading to patients. Due to COVID-19, the children no longer have volunteers coming to their rooms to read books. Instead, they are asking volunteers to video themselves reading a book and send the clip to Marie Howell, Manager for Volunteer Services at Cook Children's.

The purpose of the Virtual Story Time Reader Volunteer is to provide distraction and entertainment through readings that are broadcast to inpatient rooms via the internal station in the evenings.

All you need to participate is:

- A love of reading to others
- A video camera or mobile phone
- A book with large, clear pictures (nothing faith-based, too scary, etc.)
- A quiet place in your home where you can read aloud without being interrupted or having distractions in the background. (Pets are okay)

Questions? Contact Shannon Luce, Southlake Area Alumnae Club Philanthropy Committee.  
[shannon.luce@yahoo.com](mailto:shannon.luce@yahoo.com) or 505.350.0445



### HELPFUL TIPS

- Practice reading the story aloud a few times before creating video. It does not have to be perfect, but simply show familiarity with the story.
- Make sure your camera is positioned horizontally.
- If someone else is recording you, make sure they rest their arm on a stable surface so the camera does not wobble.
- If you are comfortable doing so, you are welcome to use voices for the characters.
- Make sure to show the book cover and pictures to the camera.



### STEP-BY-STEP VIDEO INSTRUCTIONS

- 01 Introduce yourself.** "Hi! My name is (your first name). I'm a Cook Children's volunteer and I'd like to read you a story. The title of the book is \_\_\_\_\_, written by \_\_\_\_\_, illustrated by \_\_\_\_\_. Let's get started!"
- 02 Read your book,** with enthusiasm and clarity.
- 03 Finishing up:"** Thank you for listening to (title of story). I hope you liked it. I had fun reading it to you."
- 04** Watch your video to be sure the book is visible to the patients, that you have spoken loudly and clearly enough for them to hear the story, and that there were no unexpected distractions behind you; pets are okay distractions.
- 05** Email your video to [marie.howell@cookchildrens.org](mailto:marie.howell@cookchildrens.org) and copy [southlakeareapiphi@gmail.com](mailto:southlakeareapiphi@gmail.com). The file will be large, so you may need to use iCloud or Google drive to send it.
- 06** Keep track of the time you spend setting up, practicing, and reading to our patients. Email your volunteer time to [marie.howell@cookchildrens.org](mailto:marie.howell@cookchildrens.org) and copy [southlakeareapiphi@gmail.com](mailto:southlakeareapiphi@gmail.com).
- 07** Please take a selfie or have someone take your photo with your book and send to [southlakeareapiphi@gmail.com](mailto:southlakeareapiphi@gmail.com). We will upload clips and pictures across our social media platforms.