



What is your name and where are you from?

Jessica; Greeley, Colorado

Describe a moment during your service that touched you.

One moment that really touched me happened my first term of service in Reading Corps. I had a student who really did not like reading because he struggled a bit. After a few weeks of tutoring, he told me that reading was becoming enjoyable. It was the first time I really understood the great impact Reading Corps has on students.

What's a positive about serving elementary and Pre-K kids during a pandemic?

This is a hard time for everyone, and to see how well students are handling the changes to classroom and hallway expectations is motivating for me because I want to show them that the changes are for the best and they should keep up their good work with wearing their masks and keeping social distance. Even under their masks, these kids are smiling!

Tell me about an "I want to remember that forever" moment you've had with a student.

I want to remember the time I was tutoring a student virtually and they got so excited about their new dinosaur stuffed animal. At the time, we were reading a story about a dinosaur that came to life and his stuffed animal was similar to the one in the story. He was so convinced that the story, and talking dinosaurs, were real.

Who or what is inspiring you during your service term?

I am inspired by the amazing growth I see in my students. It is awesome to see them gain confidence in their reading abilities. It shows me that I am making a difference and helping these kids.

What are you looking forward to learning during your year of service?

I am looking forward to learning from my fellow tutors as we progress throughout the year. I learn a lot from hearing how other tutors interact with students. The comradery between tutors is very helpful and I have made lifelong friends!

What are you proud of so far this school year?

I am proud of how hard my kids are trying! They all come to the sessions ready to read, keeping their masks on and respecting the social distance protocols that are in place.

What is a strategy you use to improve relationships with your students?

I always ask them one thing they did the day before, or what they had for lunch. This way they can tell me something about their day and I learn more about what they like and dislike. Every kid seems so excited to talk about lunch!