



What's it like to be a Pioneer?

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Being a Pioneer for Read Easy was an inspiring and amazing journey and gave me a long-searched for sense of fulfilment. It felt as if the skills I had gained throughout my working life came together like the pieces of a jigsaw. Doors opened when they needed to and I met remarkable people at just the right times. Responses from other organisations were also really encouraging and they were keen to be involved.

Now Read Easy Torbay is set up, I'm its Team Leader. If anyone had said to me 12 months ago I'd be speaking in front of people I'd have thought they were mad! Quite simply, it's a joy to be part of Read Easy and it's changing my life.

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- Mandy Woodard, Read Easy Torbay

Get in touch

To find out more about starting a group, contact:



Visit us online:

readeasy.org.uk

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Read Easy
Helping adults learn to read



Start a group

Could you help start a volunteer Read Easy group in your area?

What we do

Read Easy local volunteer groups provide one-to-one reading tuition for adults.

More than 7%* of adults in England never learnt to read at school. As a result, they are unable to do many everyday things that most of us take for granted. Yet many people with reading difficulties are too embarrassed to seek help if it means joining a class.

**Skills for Life Survey, 2011 (Dept. BIS)*

Read Easy provides free, confidential, one-to-one coaching from trained volunteers for anyone who struggles with reading.

New readers meet with their volunteer reading coaches for just half an hour, twice a week, at approved local venues. Together they work at their own pace through a phonics-based reading programme. Typically, people take between one and two years to complete the course.

Learning to read transforms people's lives. They improve their employment opportunities, can progress to other learning if they wish, and are able to support their children's or grandchildren's reading. Above all, people grow enormously in confidence, self-esteem and independence.



What we need

We're looking for volunteers to pioneer new groups in their communities who are:

- energetic, enthusiastic and up for a challenge
- keen to make a difference in their communities
- familiar with their local area
- self-motivated and organised
- good at networking and communicating with all sorts of people
- able to inspire and engage others
- available for part of the working week to use these skills to volunteer with Read Easy.

Is this you?

As a Read Easy 'Pioneer' you would be given all the support you need by your Regional Adviser to make setting up a group as simple and effective as possible.

What's involved in being a Pioneer?

Working with the support of your Regional Adviser, you would:

- network with other organisations to establish interest and support
- publicise the project to find other volunteers
- build a team to run and coordinate free reading coaching in your area.

Pioneers can, if they wish, share the role with another volunteer.

What's in it for you?

Becoming a Pioneer will give you the chance to:

- bring something brand new to your area
- transform the lives of individuals in your community
- use the skills you've gained to benefit others
- gain transferable skills to take into future employment or volunteering
- experience the rewards of initiating and seeing through a challenging project
- create a new community of like-minded people to offer life-changing opportunities to local people.

If you would like to be involved, please get in touch (see overleaf). For more information visit us online:

readeasy.org.uk