

# Making reading fun: Osceola Reads technology installed in Kissimmee, St. Cloud

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*A technology station that features the Footsteps2Brilliance reading app was installed at the Veterans Memorial Library in St. Cloud.*

Submitted Photo

The Osceola Reads program, a countywide literacy initiative that offers the Footsteps2Brilliance reading app to all Osceola County children at no cost, has installed new technology stations in Kissimmee and St. Cloud

At the Veterans Memorial Library in St. Cloud, the table features two iPads available for children to access the Footsteps2Brilliance app while visiting

“The mission for educating our children begins long before they start school. That’s why I’m proud to promote the literacy of young children with the installation of this technology station,” stated Osceola County Commissioner Fred Hawkins. “Osceola Reads is an important tool to pave the way for young learners to hone vital reading skills through a user-friendly app. This station broadens access for our residents to this key program.”

This location’s existing Osceola Reads technology station (sponsored by Commissioner Cheryl Grieb) will be moved to the Marydia Community Center, providing a new location for families to access the free reading app in the Kissimmee community.

The city of Kissimmee has sponsored two technology stations at the Oak Street Park Community Center and Chambers Park. There is a code provided to them attached specifically to each station that they can use, or they can log in with their own Super Secret Code if they have already registered at [OsceolaReads.com](http://OsceolaReads.com) prior.

“It is vital to encourage children to read and for them to have easy access to books. These two new technology stations will allow the city to continue promoting literacy within our youth. It is our goal to promote literacy at a young age because it provides vocabulary and knowledge,” said Kissimmee Mayor José Álvarez.

Osceola Reads’ Sponsor a Station program provides community organizations and businesses the opportunity to sponsor a technology station in and around their business or another location of their choosing in Osceola County. The Sponsor a Station program assists Osceola Reads in bringing resources into the community that will allow families to utilize the Footsteps2Brilliance reading app.

The Osceola Reads initiative is sponsored by the School District of Osceola County, Education Foundation of Osceola County, Osceola County BOCC, and the cities of Kissimmee and St. Cloud.

“These new Osceola Reads technology stations are yet another example of how our engaged community can empower students,” said Superintendent Debra Pace. “By providing greater access to the Footsteps2Brilliance reading app, our littlest learners are encouraged to build their essential reading skills for success in school and later in life.”

If you or someone you know is interested in sponsoring an Osceola Reads Station, visit the website at [www.OsceolaReads.com/SponsorAStation](http://www.OsceolaReads.com/SponsorAStation) , or contact the team at [info@osceolareads.com](mailto:info@osceolareads.com) .

To register, parents may visit [www.OsceolaReads.com](http://www.OsceolaReads.com) and complete the registration process.

For the latest information, follow Osceola Reads on social media at [Facebook.com/OsceolaReads](https://Facebook.com/OsceolaReads), [@OsceolaReads](https://twitter.com/OsceolaReads) on Twitter, and [@OsceolaReads](https://www.instagram.com/OsceolaReads) on Instagram.