

## **Celebrating the Joy of Reading: TCM Supports Read Across America**

**Huntington Beach, California, March 5, 2025** -- Each year, schools across the country come together to celebrate Read Across America, a nationwide initiative dedicated to fostering a love of reading among students. Originally launched by the National Education Association in 1998, this annual event encourages children to engage with books and develop a lifelong passion for learning.

For over a decade, Teacher Created Materials (TCM), an educational publishing company headquartered in Huntington Beach, California, has partnered with schools to bring meaningful literacy experiences to classrooms. “Read Across America is a special time for us to share our passion for literacy and learning with students and educators,” said Deanne R. Mendoza, Executive Vice President. “It’s inspiring to see students light up when they connect with a story and activity. We are grateful for the dedication of teachers and school communities who cultivate a love of learning every day.”

This year, TCM volunteers brought their passion for learning and reading to Harte Elementary School in Long Beach, California. Volunteers had also planned to visit Dowling Elementary in Minnesota, but due to unforeseen weather conditions, the visit had to be canceled.

At Harte Elementary, TCM volunteers engaged with students in every classroom, reading books and leading hands-on activities to bring the stories to life. In Pre-K and kindergarten classrooms, students read *Hands Are Not for Hitting* by Martine Agassi and created hand puppets to explore positive ways to use their hands. Second through fourth graders read *Jayden’s Impossible Garden* by Mélina Mangal and decorated pots before planting their own plants. Fifth graders read *Clear for Takeoff* by Georgia Beth and designed paper airplanes, competing to see whose plane could fly the farthest.

To continue fostering a love of reading beyond the classroom, students in all TCM-supported classrooms received backpacks filled with various TCM books. Teachers and

staff in the supported classrooms also received their own bags, which contained additional books and a TCM gift card.

“The joy and excitement we saw in the students as they engaged with these stories and activities was truly inspiring,” said Mendoza. “Despite the unexpected change in plans due to the weather in Minnesota, we are thrilled to have made a meaningful impact at Harte Elementary and love that we could share resources with Dowling Elementary.”

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### **About Teacher Created Materials**

Teacher Created Materials develops innovative and imaginative educational materials and services for students worldwide. Everything they do is created by teachers for teachers and students to make teaching more effective and learning more fun by creating engaging products for children, wherever they are learning. For more information about Teacher Created Materials and their products, visit <http://www.tcmpub.com>.

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