



# SUCCESS STORIES

EDUCATORS, STUDENTS, & FAMILIES SHARE THEIR READING SUCCESS!

## Newcomer English Language Learner



*"I am proud of myself that I did learn how to read and am still learning. I have self-confidence I didn't have before. It makes me feel better about my life."*

Elizabeth  
2010 Scholastic *READ 180* All-Star, Stage C  
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When the war in Liberia ended and Elizabeth was about 10 years old, she left everything that was familiar to her and moved to the United States with her parents and twin brother. An English Language Learner, Elizabeth struggled with her reading and writing skills and had a difficult time articulating her thoughts on paper and in conversation with others. She was embarrassed by her lack of knowledge that her classmates seemed to have a better grasp of, and she was enrolled in *READ 180* to improve those skills she desperately needed to succeed.

Since starting the program at the beginning of the fall semester in 2009, Elizabeth's Lexile scores have increased by more than 200 points. In addition, Elizabeth has not only used the *READ 180* program to improve her reading and writing skills, but also as a tool to channel the painful experiences she endured in her homeland. Elizabeth's teacher, Beverly Britton, immediately noticed changes in her student: "A month ago she raised her hand and volunteered to read! She fluently read a paragraph aloud with great confidence and enthusiasm." Elizabeth's proficiency and confidence continue to grow, and her teacher says that Elizabeth often takes home the *READ 180* materials to review the texts in more detail. Elizabeth is a determined individual.