"They just had fun, it wasn't work to them."

- Janet, P.S. staff

- Koven, Volunteer Coach

"The results will amaze you. I'll volunteer again" and again" "It's the small things you do that ultimately make a difference in a kid's life." - Kate, Yokunteer Coach

## Volunteer Opportunity

Letters, Sounds and Words
A Strong Start to reading" program

Name (Please print):	
Phone number: email:	
Weekdays I can volunteer:	□ Monday □ Tuesday □ Wednesday □ Thursday □ Friday
Amount of time each day: (minimum 30 minutes)	□ 30 minutes □ 60 minutes □ 90 minutes □ Other:
Number of days each week:	

□ three

☐ four

□ two

If your child attends this school, complete the following:

 $\square$  one

My child's name:

(minimum one day per week)

I am interested in volunteering:

My child's teacher:

"The more that you read, the more things you will know.

☐ five

The more that you learn the more places you'll go."

Dr. Seuss

from I Can Read with My Eyes Shut!

**Volunteers are needed** to coach children in a reading program in our school. Volunteer coaches work with our senior kindergarten and grade one and two children who need an extra boost learning the names of letters, sounds letters make, sight words and words that can be sounded out.

Side-by-side volunteers work with one child for ten weeks. It's this individual attention that encourages learning and confidence. To deliver this program in our school we need you. The program schedule is flexible; we can work with your schedule. The first session of coaching begins in the fall and the second session begins in the spring. Are you available? To sign up, complete the form on the back of the pamphlet and hand it in to the office.

Strong Start Charitable Organization has been developing the Letters, Sounds and Words program for over ten years. This program is special because it has been created to be used specifically by volunteers who do not need to have experience in a related field. The program is funded through donations from the community. You can learn more about Strong Start at www.strongstart.ca. Thank you for your interest.



**Super Stars Part** 



**Mystery Letter** 



**Word Match** 

Sample of games played during a coaching sessions

## **The Program**

- The Letters, Sounds and Words program uses fun games and activities to help a child develop reading skills.
- With weekly practice and lots of repetition, the child learns the names of letters, a sound for each letter, s/he learns how to recognize words by sight (e.g. the) and how to learn words by combining sounds. (e.g. c-a-t).

## The Opportunity

- Be a coach. Make a difference.
- Work with a child who needs help learning letters, letter sounds and words. Play simple games and activities with one child and watch what happens.
- When it happens, the moment the child can tell you the letter or sound or word you'll know you've done it. You made a difference.

## The Commitment

- 1. Attend two, two-hour training sessions.
- 2. Be ready to work with at least one child for a minimum of 30 minutes a week for ten weeks.
- 3. Be patient.
- 4. Be the child's biggest fan.
- 5. Be available.

