



Tutoring for the 21st century

White Paper

What is Vello?

Vello is a 1:1 online tutoring program that makes volunteering easy. It connects passionate professionals to local students for instant guided reading using screen sharing and audio software.

Vision for Vello

Every K – 3rd grade student in need has a team of United Way volunteers and a community of supporters invested in their success. A child sitting at a computer inside their classroom together with a virtual volunteer will make a world of difference in that child’s future.

Why is Vello important for the community?

Countless states have enacted legislation mandating students reach 3rd grade reading proficiency or risk being held back or remediated. Vello supports classrooms where students are most at risk of falling behind, connecting teams of volunteers to guide students in a virtual 1:1 setting. Research proves that 1:1 reading and a caring adult will help students become better readers.

Why is Vello important for modern volunteerism?

Volunteers tell us that the biggest barriers to volunteering are flexibility in scheduling and logistics. Vello provides an easy way to volunteer; anywhere with an Internet connection. Vello creates a simple method for local companies to build personal relationships with schools and individual students.

How does Vello work?

Tutor teams of 15-25 volunteers organize within a local workplace and United Way matches their team to a local classroom where they will provide 5-7 students with 1:1 tutoring. The entire classroom receives a personalized e-library with teacher instructional resources. Check out raz-plus.com

Teachers use the **Vello Portal** to set up student availability, while volunteers utilize the Portal to prepare for tutoring with a background check, self-guided training, and self-scheduling. It’s that easy!

Students take a seat at the Vello classroom computer station and volunteers link to the classroom via Zoom screen share and audio. In a virtual, 1:1 setting, students and volunteers read and complete activities to build fluency, comprehension, and other foundational reading skills.

Vello Impact Report Highlights

- 56% of teachers use Vello resources during daily instruction.
- 100% of teachers agree or strongly agree that Vello improves the reading skills of students.

- 89% of students said that reading with a Vello volunteer made them feel a lot more excited about learning.
- 78% of students said that reading with a Vello volunteer made them feel a lot better about their reading.
- The average reading level growth was 3.9 reading level on Raz-plus.
- 82% of volunteers agreed or strongly agreed Vello helped them make a positive impact.
- 80% of volunteers agreed or strongly agreed that Vello was a very meaningful use of their time.

Vello Development Partners

Seabrooks – software developers and user support team.

Insight – Provides technology for the classroom station: PC, keyboard, and mouse.

Zoom – Provides screen sharing technology to connect volunteers and classrooms.

Learning A-Z (Raz-Plus literacy suite) – Provides all reading content; over 1,500 e-books and activities associated with literacy.

Verified Volunteers – Provides online background check for volunteers.

Vello Pricing

United Way seeks sponsorships from local partners to ensure classrooms can be supported through Vello. The price is determined at the local United Way level and is priced as an annual fee per classroom. Sponsorships cover the costs for the following: PC, monitor, keyboard, headset, mouse, bracket, applicable cables, the e-library license for the entire class, and the license for the screen sharing technology; support services for all users & administrators; and online administrative portal and the associated toolkits and marketing resources.

Vello User Support

A comprehensive user support system will ensure local program administrators, classrooms, and Vello volunteers have the support they need. A chat feature will create real-time support for teachers to use if there are connection issues or emergency cancellation requests. A dedicated Vello phone line and email will support other users with direct communication to program specialists that will solve any unexpected issues.