



# Reading to Rover

## *Information for parents*

*Reading to Rover is a literacy program designed to help children practice their reading aloud skills to gentle therapy pets.*

- ◆ To get started, please register your child at the sign in table and indicate the pet/s of choice. Then select a book from those provided by the library. (Your child may also want to bring a book from home.)
- ◆ When the selected pet becomes available, bring your child to the pet, be seated and let the reading begin. The dogs welcome petting, snuggles and interaction during the story.
- ◆ If your child cannot read, a Reading To Rover volunteer will read the story to them.
- ◆ In order to give all children an opportunity to read, your child may not be able to read an entire book to one pet. We encourage your child to bookmark their place and continue reading the story to another pet.
- ◆ After reading a story, your child will be asked if he or she wishes to give the dog a treat. All treats are provided by the pet handler. Your child will receive a bookmark indicating which pet they read to plus the date and time of the next Reading To Rover.

*We hope you enjoy the program and will visit Reading to Rover often.*



**Reading to Rover** is the literacy project of the

### **VISITING PET PROGRAM**

a 25-year-old, all-volunteer, animal-assisted activity program serving hospitals and nursing homes in Orleans, Jefferson and St. Tammany parishes. Only pets trained and certified by the Visiting Pet Program and handled by one of their volunteers may participate in Reading to Rover.

*To learn more about the Visiting Pet Program and Reading To Rover, please visit our web site at*

**[visitingpetprogram.org](http://visitingpetprogram.org)**