

WHAT'S THE Word?

AN UPDATE FROM YOUR FRIENDS AT MY SPECIAL WORD

NOVEMBER 2023

FROM THE FOUNDER

Renee and I continue to be inspired everyday as we share My Special Word with everyone (children and adults) we meet. The stories that we hear and the excitement of the children as they celebrate their "awesomeness" shines as a bright light offering a warm inviting glow to others. These positive and inspiring moments are happening **EVERY DAY**; in schools, at home with family and with our partners.

Please remember, that all children and adults should have their very own special word and they should live it out and celebrate their word everyday. I invite you to join me on the journey and encourage others to join the My Special Word movement. **Thank you for your support.** *You are appreciated.*



PARTNER Spotlight



www.readwithmalcolm.com

I am thrilled to share with you an exciting partnership between My Special Word and **The Share The Magic Foundation - Read With Malcolm Program**. I encourage you to visit their website at www.readwithmalcolm.com to learn more about this impactful organization. Malcolm Mitchell, a former NFL player, and Super Bowl Champion, established Read with Malcolm, a program that emphasizes his strong commitment to supporting children's literacy.

I was introduced to Malcolm by our mutual partner, Worldreader. Malcolm's love for and commitment to supporting children through his successful reading program immediately resonated with me as both My Special Word and Read with Malcolm are **focused on the power of positive words** and inspiring children through stories.

The Share the Magic Foundation continues to grow due to partnerships with foundations such as My Special Word. When we visit schools and have our Reading Rallies and Reader2Leader Programs, we like to leave tangibles behind to keep the momentum going, and we are pleased to now include a My Special Word activity for each school we visit.

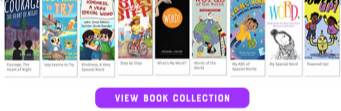
Malcolm's Special Word is **Perseverance**, to be persistent in doing something despite difficulty or delay in achieving success, and in learning Malcolm's story he truly never gave up despite every adversity he's faced in his lifetime. His mission is to inspire students to never give up on pursuing their dreams by emphasizing the significance of literacy. And what better way to motivate these students than by offering them a "My Special Word" activity? This activity allows them to choose their own unique Special Word, which can serve as a source of **constant inspiration to help them stay motivated**.

MY SPECIAL WORD

Digital Book Collection UPDATE

September marked the **one year anniversary** of our digital book collection launch with our partner Worldreader (<http://www.Worldreader.org>). The books have been accessed by over 72,460 readers, 7,775 hours of reading time and 1,796,277 total pages read. The collection is a wonderful resource to instill a love of reading.

Reading early gives a child a head start on expanding their vocabulary and builds independence and self-confidence. Our collection helps children learn to make sense not only of the world around them, but also builds social emotional skills and seeing the power of positive words.



[VIEW BOOK COLLECTION](#)

Seven Benefits OF READING TO CHILDREN

1. Supported cognitive development.
2. Improved language skills.
3. Preparation for academic success.
4. Developing a special bond with your child.
5. Increased concentration and discipline.
6. Improved imagination and creativity.
7. Cultivating a lifelong love of reading.

Harrison M. Sayre Award HONOREES

The 2023 Harrison M. Sayre Award, given in honor of The Columbus Foundation's founder and 25 year volunteer director, recognizes leadership in philanthropy in central Ohio.

Dwight and Renee Smith were the proud recipients in September and believe giving back to the community and inspiring others to be generous is a blessing.

BRUTUS BUCKEYE

We are excited to continue our partnership with Brutus Buckeye. Brutus will continue to join us at local schools to help children celebrate their special word. We encourage you to **share how your students are using My Special Word**.

Send us a note: info@myspecialword.com.



LOOKING FORWARD

I am super jazzed about MSW in 2024—and beyond. We have momentum and have only just scratched the surface of making a positive impact in the lives of children around the world.

Positive Words + Positive Conversations + Positive Behaviors creates

A Positive World

Let's make this vision a reality for our children and for all people. Thank you for supporting this exciting journey.

Dwight

JOIN US IN CHANGING A CHILD'S WORLD TODAY [CLICK HERE TO DONATE](#)