

Bright Ideas for Our Haitian Public Library Idées brillantes pour notre bibliothèque publique haïtienne

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For the Cange Library friends & supporters in Haiti and the US to consider as possible program components for the library. Just "food for thought." News and ideas that could be adapted or redesigned for Cange Community Library.

IDEA #1: Library starting early literacy project: 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten

Originally posted May 6, 2014 <http://www.chillicothenews.com/> (below is an edited/excerpt)

“The Livingston County Library (Missouri, USA) Children’s Department has announced the May 12 launch of the new early literacy program: 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten. This program is designed to help parents/caregivers prepare their children for one of life’s big milestones: Kindergarten. From the time they are infants, children learn language and other important skills that will help them learn to read.

This program, aimed at children birth to Kindergarten, is a fun way to help children gain those important skills. There are three steps to the program:

1. Starting May 12, sign up for the program by visiting the Children’s Department. Participants will receive their first reading log and a bag to personalize and keep.
2. Come back each time 50 books have been shared together to receive a stamp in the log. Come in when 100 books have been shared together to receive a small prize and to get the next 100 book log. When 200, 500, and 800 books are reached, come in for special prizes.
3. When 1,000 books have been shared together, the child will be invited to a 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten graduation party!

The kick off coincides with Children’s Book Week held during the week of May 12-16. “We are so excited to offer this program to our community. This is a great way to work on early literacy components and have fun with your child,” states Candice Warren, Children’s librarian. “There is a lot of flexibility to this program. You decide the pace of this program and what works best for your family.” 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten goes hand-in-hand with our Books for Babies Hospital Program and our Fizz, Boom, Read Summer Reading Program.”



PILH Advisor Comments:

Pro-- Just talking about books greatly increases a child's vocabulary size. Parents do not have to read to be able to share books and language with their children. Similar programs have actually encouraged non-reading parents to learn to read. Parent-child preschool language interaction often predicts age 8 reading skills.

With help from the US friends, we could collect gently loved infant & preschool books, translate them to French and give them out to families through the library to take home. Instead of checking books out, it would be possible to have family reading hours regularly scheduled in the library perhaps after church on Sunday?

**What is your opinion? Could this work in our library?
Have a different bright idea for the library?**

Send it to Dr. Sara, haitiliteracy@gmail.com to share with everyone.

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