



The 123Read2Me School Literacy Day Program

PURPOSE:

The 123Read2Me School Literacy Day Program is a Free Book program for low ICSEA score Primary Schools to encourage a love of books and reading and to remove another barrier to home reading.

SCOPE:

All children in participating schools, with the active assistance of their class teachers and support staff, with every child choosing 2 books each term to take home, keep and enjoy.

All books will be clean, age appropriate, and pre-sorted into categories of Kinder/Prep, Primary Picture, and Primary Chapter. They will be sourced from our donated 'gently loved' or new book stocks, as available.

All we ask is that the children take the books home to enjoy. When there are books in the home, someone can read aloud to the children, be it a parent, grandparent, extended family member, carer, older sibling, etc.

The evidence is clear that reading aloud to children for just 10 minutes a day sets the children up for success in school and in life. The 123Read2Me Literacy Day Program removes one of the obstacles to reading at home in disadvantaged communities through providing a constant supply of FREE children's books.

PROGRAM:

The program is simple for the school and exciting for the children.

Each term, the school holds a Book Day (Literacy Day, Reading Day - you choose the title) either as a standalone event or in conjunction with another activity in your school program. A week or two beforehand, 123Read2Me delivers a generous supply of suitable books to the school. The class teachers then go through the books to grade and sort them for their classes, taking out those titles needed in the classroom etc. and preparing for 'The Day'. If the teachers notice that they are short in a particular category, we will provide more; just ask.

On 'The Day', the books are presented to each class spread out over tables, on the floor, wrapped in a blanket, or any other way that suits and the children get to go through the lot to select two books *to take home and cherish*.

Reluctant readers are taken through before the rest of the class, guided by their teacher or aide, to ensure they get two books that appeal to them. The remaining students then come in and choose their own. We recommend they do so in two goes: they go through the selection and choose a book, withdraw and spend up to ten minutes or so together thinking about what they have selected and seen, chatting, swapping, etc. They then go back for another title that appeals to them, swapping out their original pick if desired. Everyone goes home with 2 books that they want, and have chosen for themselves.

It is that simple!

AN EXTENSION to the program is aimed at younger siblings. We can supply additional board books, toddler or Kinder age books for those with younger siblings at home to enjoy. It may encourage the primary children to read aloud to their younger siblings with benefits for both.

If this extension appeals to your school please advise the approximate numbers so we can arrange supply with the rest of your requirements.

KEY BENEFITS:

- Every child gets 2 books each term to take home and keep.
- It ensures that reluctant readers are not disadvantaged by the process, and are actually assisted to select appropriate books for them, individually.
- It encourages family members at home to read aloud to the children.
- It fits any school program and adds excitement to reading and books.
- The program is FREE!

We would encourage your school to take up this exciting new literacy initiative and welcome the opportunity to meet with you or your nominated team member soon to set up the program for your school community.