



Want to volunteer as a reading mentor?

The RBZ 'Buku Club' project offers excellent volunteer opportunities for both young people out of school or college and adults to be reading mentors/facilitators which most parents already are, if only at bed time!

- Financial reports when needed
 - Frequent e-mail updates
 - Eligible to borrow one book per month from our selection
 - Quarterly Buku Club Bulletins
 - Invitations to children's reading & other RBZ activities
- Choose one or several of the following benefits:

Your benefits

- Other support:..... per month (please indicate)
 - General administrative support @ K 20,000 per month
 - Volunteer reading mentor's transport: K 25,000 per month
 - K 30,000 per month
 - Buku Club materials (pencils, crayons, books, snacks, incentives):
- Choose one or several of the following activities to support:

Areas of contribution

Duration of contribution

- Choose the period for your contribution:
- 1 month
 - 3 months
 - 6 months
 - 9 months
 - 1 year

- Choose whether you want to pay:
- at once
 - monthly installments
- Choose whether you want to pay:
- Debit
 - Cash

Your contact details

Name:

E-mail:

Mobile:

Together for a literate, empowered generation!

Read Beyond Zambia

readzambia@yahoo.co.uk

+260 955 785 903

www.readbeyondzambia.org



HELP A CHILD READ

Support Buku Club for Children's Literacy Development

Why is literacy important?

- § It is a tool for poverty reduction.
- § It reduces children's vulnerability to abuse by enhancing self confidence and assertiveness.
- § It is an essential tool for further learning.

Read Beyond Zambia
Literacy Development Project



What is Buku Club?

The "Buku Club" is a project of Read Beyond Zambia (RBZ) a local organisation with the goal of promoting a reading culture in Zambia by targeting children to develop their interest in reading and literary works in general.

An average Zambian child can barely read or write irrespective of the level of education, and this partly accounts for the poor performance at Grade 7 and 9 examinations (Zambia 2007 Human Development Report, chapter 5). Those who drop out of school lose even the initial literacy they once had. The lack of opportunities to practice extensive reading has contributed to this (April 2000 Annual Review of Primary Reading Programme). The reading that is common is specific, short term and often examination focused; sadly, even those that are able to read progressively read less and less. This leads to underdeveloped literacy abilities among children, youths, and adults.

With the advent of 24 hours television and rental movies, Compounds are full of 'movie' houses where even young children are exposed to uncensored films. In homes where parents are absent most of the time, children spend all their free time watching movies and cartoons that do little to improve their interest in books and more importantly stimulate their minds.

Read Beyond Zambia is a registered (ORS 102/35/3513) local not-for-profit non governmental organisation that advocates for the development of children's literacy skills and the reading habit. Working with volunteer 'reading mentors' from the surrounding community, RBZ established the first Buku Club (BC) at a community school in Kalingalinga. Through "Buku Club" Read Beyond Zambia (RBZ) provides children an opportunity to practice their literacy skills and develop interest in reading and literary works in general. This is done in a non-threatening environment.

Aim

To empower children with adequate literacy skills essential for poverty reduction and development.

Objectives

- § Provide children an opportunity to practice, develop and retain acquired literacy skills.
- § Stimulate an early love for reading among targeted vulnerable children.
- § Empower children, school systems and communities to demand for literacy skills promotion.
- § Stimulate active community involvement and participation in literacy activities.



Target

Children from the densely populated peri-urban communities with neither the luxury of nursery and pre-schooling nor the support of parents and reading space at home. These children come from overcrowded homes, some lack electricity and the parents are out late making a living.

Activities

- § Extensive reading
- § Reading diary maintenance
- § Story telling and writing
- § Spelling exercises
- § Training in leadership development, HIV/AIDS awareness, assertiveness and other life skills
- § Training in library use, book management and use of reading diary
- § Peer outreach

Expected outcomes

- § Better reading and writing skills
- § Literate, assertive, and empowered children
- § Improved learning outcomes in formal schooling
- § Enhanced literacy learning and teaching in Clubs
- § Increased community participation and involvement

Challenges

- § Community involvement
- § Volunteer mentor recruitment and retention
- § Inadequate access to appropriate, relevant children's books
- § Finances for operational costs like pencils, crayons, volunteer incentives, literacy materials, among others

Future plans

The Buku Club is an initiative one wants to see in every community to stimulate young minds to love books and discover the hidden treasures in them. With your support, RBZ will open several BCs in every corner of each compound we enter before spreading to other high density compounds. The plan is to expand the Buku Clubs in Lusaka in 2010 and begin to move to other towns especially provincial centres in 2011.