

IOWA STORIES 2000

INDEPENDENCE, IOWA

RESULTS OF PROJECT SELECTION MEETING HELD NOVEMBER 9, 2000

Ideal Attributes and Characteristics of an Independence Literacy Project

The Independence Iowa Stories 2000 Advisory Panel agrees that their literacy project should:

- Encourage reading
- Be doable, with a clear purpose
- Be sustainable
 - Easily
 - Over the long-term
 - Through changes in leadership
 - Yet flexible and adaptable to change
- Be well organized
- Be appealing, i.e., upbeat, fun, simple, challenging, involving, “hands-on”, interesting, and engendering of enthusiasm
- Have wide participation, beyond and across target group(s)
- Have large participation
- Be open to all
- Have broad-based community support
- Secure funding for implementation
- Be introduced by a significant media event
- Be well known as the result of good publicity
- Have an ongoing assessment/internal evaluation component

Selected Project(s) for Iowa Stories 2000 Literacy Efforts in Independence

ABC for Children

Activities, books, and concerns for parents of children, birth through 3rd grade

Extend Books for Babies

Gift toddlers age 1 through 3 with books on their birthdays

Nominated Projects

ABC for Children (received 9 votes)

Activities, books, and concerns for parents of children, birth through 3rd grade

Extend Books for Babies (received 9 votes)

Gift toddlers age 1 through 3 with books on their birthdays

Parenting Workshops (received 2 votes)

Teach parents "How" to read to their children, how to identify/select age-appropriate reading material/books, introduce a costumed "Mother Goose" as part of the project

Child Care Resource and Referral for Day Care Providers (received 2 votes)

Provide literacy education and resources to child care providers within the community

Book Buddies

Facilitate reading partnerships in which middle school children read to younger children in kindergarten through 2nd grade to improve reading skills of both middle and primary school children

Middle School Summer Reading Program (received 2 votes)

Program could include book exchanges, book talks, a visit to the community from a distinguished children's author whose book(s) has been read by middle schoolers during this summer program

Oral Histories of Community Elders (received 1 votes)

Area school children would interview senior citizens to collect oral histories. They might prepare "Read and Rap" sessions, create audio-books (books on tape) and develop websites to communicate and share the oral histories with seniors and other community members

Bookmobile for the Elderly (received 4 votes)

Delivery of age-interest books to isolated and shut-in elderly as a combined county effort with delivery to areas not currently served by any library/reading room in the county

Reading to lonely adults, especially community elders in care centers and neighborhoods

Reading and writing workshops for community elders

Community members read to the elderly and project activities to encourage writing among senior citizens

Community-based Accelerated Reader (received 7 votes)

Extend the popular school-based accelerated reader program to all ages throughout the community through print and computer-mediated on-line resources