

Read 'n' Give Event Kit

Purpose

To promote literacy by collecting new and gently used books to share with students who may not have easy access to books.

Plan

Enlist the help of a business or corporation interested in working with the school to collect and distribute new or gently used books. Find a school or organization for book donations. The recipients will be encouraged to read the books and pass them on to someone else. The books include a premade sticker (provided by the community partner) that communicates the nature of the project to the recipient of the book. The sticker provides a space for students to write their names so the next person who receives the book can see how many people have been impacted by this book. The sticker explains the project and inspires the reader to "pay it forward" by passing the book on to someone else.

Summary of Suggested Procedures (allow student voice to determine actual process):

1. Establish a community partner and determine a group to receive the donated books, based on research and needs.
2. Determine the goals and procedures for the book drive.
3. Design and produce a book sticker and promotion poster with the community partner (including school's and partner's logos and contact information).
4. Set up book collection bins in classrooms and at community partner.
5. Hold a kick-off event at school and invite the local news (Hold an assembly or lunch, send home notes, motivate and inspire students and community).
6. Hold a collection period with a clear end date. Continue to promote the project in creative ways during the collection period.
7. Guide and allow students to plan the best way to distribute the books and explain the project to the recipients. (Students may read the books to younger students, write personal notes to recipients, plan a lunch or activity, etc.)
8. After the collection period, the community partner delivers their collected books to the school.
9. Students and community partner count the books, add stickers, and prepare the books for delivery.
10. Contact the local media to communicate about the value contributed to the community and notify them about upcoming delivery of books.
11. Hold an event at which students share the books with the predetermined recipients.

