



Barbara Bush Literacy Program Literacy Month

Project Ideas

- Invite an author to come to a school to talk to students about the writing process, reading or storytelling. Create a program to bring authors to schools on a regular basis.
- Check in with the **Library of Congress** and hold a local version of one of their planned programs/events. <http://loc.gov/>
- Interview a school librarian and find out where there are deficiencies in the library—historical, reference, biographies, historical fiction, etc. Then fundraise to meet those needs.
- Read sections, introductions, excerpts of books from the Mamie Eisenhower Library Project list, classic books, and cultural literacy books to children to pique their interest. Have books to donate to the school or classroom.
- Participate/Support:

The Dictionary Project - <http://dictionaryproject.org/>

Reach Out and Read - <http://www.reachoutandread.org/>

Reach One – Teach One - <http://reachoneteachone.com/>

Books and Badges

Reading is Fundamental - <http://readingisfundamental.org/>

Shared Beginnings

Books for Ownership

Family of Readers

Running Start

- Start a small library in a small town.
- Read Out Loud Story Time Club
- Little Red Bookshelf in family court—books free to children waiting with parents to resolve family legal issues.

- Patriotic fifth grade writing challenge—20 word essay: What it means to be patriotic. First prize: pizza party for the class and \$100 certificate from OfficeMax to teacher.
- Large print Reader's Digest magazines to senior citizens centers, Reader's Digest novels, Braille books
- Club assists classrooms/school in Young Author's Fairs by making mat board books for students to use to write their own books.
- Magazine subscriptions to senior living centers
- One Book: Encourage a class, grade level, group of children, group of adults to read a book and then visit or gather together for a discussion.
- Recognize outstanding teachers.
- Tutor in after-school reading program.
- **United Through Reading:** Deployed military parents are videotaped reading a book aloud privately for their children; the tape is mailed back to the parent and child along with the book so the child can read the book with the deployed parent. The child is videotaped or photographed reading with the tape, which is sent back to the deployed parent. Also works for grandparents and families with a member who is incarcerated. <http://www.unitedthroughreading.org/>
- Themed book basket auction
- Give cash donation to literacy groups.
- Donate a subscription to **News for You** to a school, shelter, after-school program. <http://newsforyouonline.com/>
- Hold a book drive to distribute to local literacy programs, childcare centers, prisons, shelters, etc.
- Conduct GED testing at jails, prisons, etc.
- Give a book to each baby born in your community. For larger cities, pick a doctor and volunteer to provide books during a special week.