



Serving the
Children
of the World



KEY CLUB

The Governor's Project

Volume 1 Issue 1

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Hey TO Key Clubbers...

Hey TO Key Clubbers! I hope your summer has been absolutely great. This year our Governor, Kevin Meeks, chose his project as R.E.A.D. In order to receive the Governor's Project Patch you have to have 2 service hours per member per club. This means if you have 30 members in your club then you have to have 60 service hours to receive the patch. If your club decides to donate books or school supplies for their project, the formula is 5 items = 1 service hour. The National Assessment of Educational Progress testing indicates that the percentage of American children who are able to read well hasn't improved at all in the last 25 years! So let's get together as key clubbers and make this project a great success!

The 7 Most Startling Statistics!

1. 61 percent of low-income families have no books at all in their homes for their children.
2. One half of all adults in federal and state correctional institutions cannot read or write at all.
3. The educational careers of 25-40% of American children are imperiled because they don't read well enough, quickly enough, or easily enough.
4. Approximately 50% of the nation's unemployed youth age 16-21 are functionally illiterate, with virtually no prospects of obtaining good jobs.

5. More than 20% of adults read at or below a 5th grade level – far below the level needed to earn a living wage!

6. 21 million Americans can't read at all, 45 million are marginally illiterate and 1/5th of high-school graduates can't read their diplomas.

7. 50% of American adults are unable to read an 8th grade level book.

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How to Get Involved

One of the benefits of this project is the flexibility that it offers. There are so many ways to get involved and make a difference. Here are just a few:

- Read a children's book to an elementary class
- Visit an after-school tutoring program
- Start a book drive at your school
- Volunteer at a local alternative school
- Donate books or school supplies to underprivileged schools
- Start a tutoring program at your school
- Check with local libraries to see if they could donate books and, in return, ask if your club could help them

Try to work together with other organizations that are already working to fight child illiteracy ...

Your local Kiwanis and United Way organizations are two great options.

If there is a subject that you really enjoy and know well, ask your Key Club Faculty Advisor or the head of your after-school tutoring program if there is a need for tutoring in that subject. If not, your coordinator can announce that you are willing to help in that area, which may open up opportunities in the future.

Words of Advice

- ♥ Book drives are more successful if there is a competition involved. Try awarding a prize to the group or individual that donates the most
- ♥ Speak with your local library about tutoring opportunities or unwanted books
- ♥ If there is not a tutoring program already established, talk to your Key Club Faculty Advisor about starting one
- ♥ Visit www.tokeyclub.com to learn more about the District and any new updates.

The Governor's Project Committee Contacts

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Key Club

A Kiwanis Service Leadership Program

"Creating caring & competent leaders through the vehicle of service since 1925"