

Reading Tents

Reading tents give children and adults the chance to read books they otherwise wouldn't have access to.

Michael from Tanzania

“One day our school was invited to a reading tent. To get there we walked for three hours to reach the main road where we boarded a bus to Vigwaza where the reading tent was.



At 9am the reading tent started. We were allowed to choose a book to read. I chose “Mganga Pazi” [Pazi the witchdoctor]. In our school there are no such books. At noon, I was given a plate full of rice, meat and beans. I have heard other children saying rice is very delicious, but I had not tasted it. When we arrived home we were exhausted but we were very excited to tell our parents what we had seen.

Now we have a school library where many children borrow books. School attendance has improved because children like reading story books. The reading tent made me see these books for the first time in my life, so I will always remember it.”

Did you know?

151 million people in sub-Saharan Africa cannot read.

If you could share one book with Michael what would it be? Why do you enjoy reading it? Describe the story and the main characters.

Hold your own reading tent to raise money for Book Aid International! Download an activity sheet at www.bookaid.org/schools

Thank you for supporting Book Aid International and helping us to change lives.

This poster contains more information about our work and some ideas you can think about in the classroom. There are also lots of activity sheets and fundraising ideas at www.bookaid.org/schools. You can download them and print them for your class. If you would like an extra copy of this poster please contact lesley.pinder@bookaid.org.

Every £1.25 raised can send one more book to a school or library in sub-Saharan Africa!



Thank you!

Last year, schools raised a fantastic £64,000 for Book Aid International. That's enough to send more than 50,000 books to Africa!

What book changed your life?



A Lonely White Sail by Valentin Katayev. This was about a country and a time far, far away from me. It was about Odessa in 1905 and how two boys got caught up in the events of that time. They were boys I could identify with and it opened up the idea that life is full of possibility and change.

Michael Rosen – Children's Laureate



The Diary of Anne Frank. I've lost count of how many times I've read it. I learnt long passages by heart and started keeping a detailed diary myself throughout my teenage years. I still can't read Anne's achingly sad but ultimately uplifting story without crying.

Jacqueline Wilson – Author of the Tracey Beaker Stories



In 2003, our school was invited to a reading tent. Although I am blind I was shown some books in braille. The book I liked very much was *Mfalme Ndevu na Maskini Mkata Kuni*. The story was very good and it made me read more stories so I could amuse myself. When I entered a reading competition, I won first prize.

Young boy from Tanzania

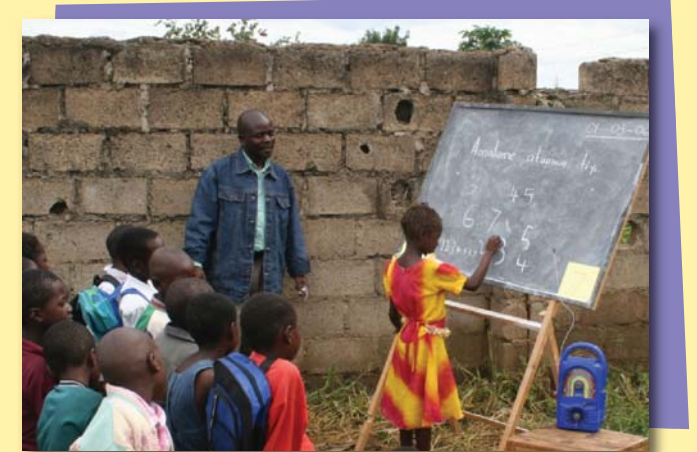
How do you think a book could change someone's life?

Community Schools

Zambia Open Community Schools give vulnerable children, especially orphans and girls, the chance to learn.

Mary from Zambia

“My name is Mary, and I am an orphan. My parents died when I was 4 years old. I was staying with my grandmother but she also died when I was 10 years old. So I started working in our neighbour's field. But a teacher from Linda Open Community School school knew me so I started school there. I have been at the school for four years. I do not think I could have continued schooling if there was no community school.



Children learning at a community school in Zambia

The first book I read was on HIV/AIDS. It is important to know how you can prevent HIV/AIDS. As children we need more books about HIV/AIDS and other diseases so that we can tell our friends and family. It is difficult to get books because they are expensive.”

Did you know?

...girls in sub-Saharan Africa are less likely than boys to attend school or finish school. Why do you think this is?

Learn more about Zambia and community schools at www.bookaid.org/schools

Write a story about Michael's journey to the reading tent or Mary's day at community school.

How do you think their lives are different to yours?

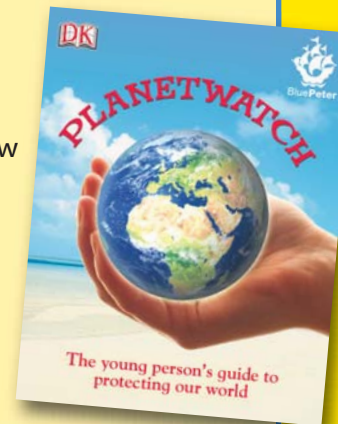
Competition Design a book cover!

Dorling Kindersley and Book Aid International are offering fantastic prizes for this year's World Book Day competition!

We would like you to design your own book cover.

You can pick your favourite book and design a new cover OR you could design your own alternative cover for the brand new book Planetwatch.

Planetwatch is a guide to our planet, how it works and what we can do to look after it. It contains lots of information like where food comes from, why floods happen and why some animals are dying out.



Competition age ranges: 4–7, 8–11 and 12–16

The winning entries in each age range will receive £50 worth of Dorling Kindersley books. Two runners up in each age range will receive £20 worth of Dorling Kindersley books each.

The winning schools will also receive £100 worth of books.

Entries should include the design for a front cover and spine! You can download a book cover template at www.bookaid.org/schools

Please send entries to: **World Book Day Book Cover Comp, Marketing Department, Dorling Kindersley, 80, Strand, London WC2R 0RL**

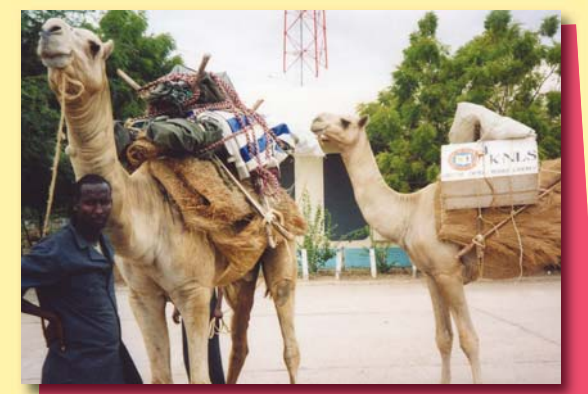
How do you feel about the environment?

Why do you think it is important to look after our planet?

How can books help us do this?

Mobile libraries

Some villages in Africa are too remote to have a library. In places like Kenya, Zambia and Zimbabwe motorbikes, donkeys, buses and even camels are used to transport books to people in really rural areas so they can read too.



Grace from Zambia

“They said that the mobile library has all the books that we can ever think of. I thought that since books are really expensive this would really help. From that time I started getting books from the library.

The mobile library is really doing us good. Many of us can't afford books that we need but the mobile library helps helpless pupils without materials and books to study. I'd like to say thanks to the people that are funding and supporting the mobile library because it has really changed my understanding from bad to good.”

Did you know?

...that for some people in sub-Saharan Africa a book can cost as much as a months wage. That's why libraries are important.

How many different ways can you think of to transport books to towns and villages?

Try our Journey of a Book Aid International book activity! Download it at www.bookaid.org/schools