STORYMOJA READ ALOUD REPORT

DAY OF THE AFRICAN CHILD EDITION
JUNE 17th 2016
About the Read Aloud

This is Africa’s largest gathering of children reading aloud from the same text and at the same time in multiple locations. The event is conducted bi-annually: a New Year edition in January and on the Day of the African Child in June. It is a 15-minute expressive and interesting reading exercise, where children from different schools across the country read the same text at the same time. Reading aloud with students provides an enjoyable, shared experience of written language, which can form the foundation for further language and reading development.

Objectives of Read Aloud

• To promote and stimulate peace and ethnic tolerance messages and conversations about sensitive themes such as ethnicity, equality, non-discrimination and respect for diversity.
• To present reading as an enjoyable and shared experience with an aim of encouraging reading for pleasure.
• To collect data about reading and the state of libraries in schools.
• To break the world record for the most people reading aloud simultaneously in multiple locations. We believe that this will help to change attitudes and position Kenya as a reading nation.

About the Recommended Books

Attack of the Shidas is a powerful science fiction story that was commissioned by the Kenya Human Rights Commission (KHRC) to teach Kenyan children ethnic tolerance. The 2011-12 Knowledge Attitude and Practice (KAP) study on equality/non-discrimination revealed that 6 out of 10 school children in Kenya are aware that tribalism is a form of discrimination but claim they are under pressure from their parents to discriminate on ethnicity.

The study was inspired by the realization that children were not only affected by the 2007/8 post-election violence, but in some cases formed part of the perpetrators. Children aged 15 years and above formed part of the youth militia that spread inciting messages and meted out violence following the 2007 elections, thus there was need to incorporate material in school that would act as intervention to promoting peace and patriotism. The book is approved by the Kenya Institute of Curriculum Development (KICD) and has been translated into Kiswahili and transcribed into Braille to enhance access by marginalized and disadvantaged communities.

Why Day of the African Child?

The June, 16 annual event honours the memories of students who were massacred in Soweto, South Africa in 1976 for protesting against education injustice and inequality during the apartheid regime. It was designated as Day of the African Child in 1991 by the African Union and every year events are organised to promote children’s rights.

Reading is cool! Kusoma ni Poa!
Highlights from June Read Aloud

Thank you for supporting...

STORYMOJA READ ALOUD
Peace Edition
June 17th 2016

162,880 Participants
20,500 Digital Reach
KES 1,000,000 Media Coverage
12 Reading Ambassadors
760 Schools
12 Counties
16 Partners

Save the date
Thursday 16th February 2017, World Read Aloud Day.
Time: 8:00am.
For more information: www.startalibrary.org, 020-2089595/0733-838161

Reading is cool! Kusoma ni Poa!
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EVENT IN WORDS

“The pupils understood as they could answer questions asked after the whole event”
– Grace Nduta, Teacher, Stelly Academy. Nairobi County

“It was great! Very exciting to the school community and we want to adopt is as a monthly event”
- Joyce Mwaura, Head teacher- Kids Zone educational centre. Nairobi County

“The event was very colourful with all pupils participating in the event cheerfully”
– David Karanja, head teacher, Kamuguga primary school. Kiambu County

“The event will be able to bring all people together as one and create more critical thinking on peace and love”
– Leonard Thuva, Head teacher, Wagner Gold Maridadi school. Kilifi County

“It was very interesting as pupils read aloud for pleasure and enjoyment”
- Jane Mwangi, teacher, Mwingi Primary. Kitui County

“It was a captivating exercise. The learners were exited and were so enthusiastic. It is so motivational and our students yearned for more. Learners were motivated to do more reading”
– Morris Muthoka, Teacher, Mwereni Secondary school. Kwale County

“The event was very formative, educative and the message passed was inspiring. I believe the pupils attitude will be seen after some time having changed positively.”

“The event was exhilarating and those who didn’t have the book listened to their colleagues read aloud and many were encouraged. Thank you for organizing such a wonderful event.”
– Benson Muindi. Head Teacher, Mbooni primary school. Makueni County

“It was very encouraging in helping the learners to improve their language ability and more so in communication”
– Eunice Ng’ang’a. teacher, St. John Kigoro Academy. Muran’ga County

“The pupils were very attentive and participated well. It would help even the shy pupils to read if practised regularly in the classes and would improve both spoken & written English in all levels.”
– Keziah Nderi. Head teacher, Kayole North Primary. Nairobi County

“This is a great event which even the non-readers, slow readers and all readers struggle to outdo the other. Its fun and an exciting exercise. They want to continue and continue


Reading is cool! Kusoma ni Poa!
AREAS OF PARTNERSHIP

- As we approach the 2017 general national election, the country is increasingly gearing up to campaign mode with undertones of tribalism and hate. We are actively seeking partnership with organizations involved in peace projects to design strategic interventions such as peace workshops for children, parents and teachers.
- Bulk purchase of the recommended book in schools; we recommend 10 library copies per school at a cost of KES 3,780. **We currently have a database of more than 1,300 schools across the country.**
- Development of Attack of the Shidas/ Shambulizi la akina Shida workbooks for students, teachers and parents that will guide conversations and engagement around ethnic tolerance, equality/ non-discrimination and National unity.
- Signing up schools to participate in the World Read Aloud Day of the African Child edition of the Read Aloud on 16th February 2017.
- Signing up as a reading ambassador to support the Read Aloud event in a school.

SAVE THE DATE

Every year World Read Aloud Day calls global attention to the importance of reading aloud and sharing stories. Storymoja has answered the call and the New Year edition of Read Aloud 2017 will be celebrated on 16th February 2016 with the rest of the world. World Read Aloud Day aims to motivate children, teens and adults worldwide to celebrate the power of words and create a community of readers taking action to show the world that the right to literacy belongs to all people. World Read Aloud Day is celebrated by millions of people in more than 100 countries!