

READING IS FUNDAMENTAL INC.

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Carol Rasco
Assistant to the President for Domestic Policy
The White House
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Carol:

It was delightful to see you earlier this month at the Kiwanis luncheon at the White House.

I want you to know that RIF would be glad to assist your various efforts to champion children and promote literacy. We'd be happy to help in any way that we can.

In the meantime, I thought you might enjoy a copy of our latest publication. Designed to illustrate the many ways families make reading a meaningful part of their lives, the poster will be sent to RIF projects across the country to encourage everyone to make reading a happy part of growing up.

Hope you will feel free to call on us.

Best wishes,

Ruth Graves
President

RG:rw

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RIF's "Growing Up Reading" Poster

Children who grow up reading have a lot of advantages. They're more likely to succeed in school, and consequently, to have more and better career opportunities. Best of all, reading is something kids never outgrow. Books follow them into adulthood and continue to captivate and enrich them all their lives.

Reading Is Fundamental has designed this special poster to illustrate the many small but meaningful ways that families foster in their children a love for reading and make it a happy part of growing up.

Poster Activities

The back of the poster features seven reproducible activity panels. Bound together, they can become pages in a scrapbook of reading remembrances. Or you may select and use just a few pages that you know will most appeal to the children you serve.

After you have photocopied the back panels, hang the poster. Use the artwork as a springboard for discussion about personal or family reading habits. The poster may generate more artwork—pictures of what

kids imagine may be going on in another window. Or it may be the subject for a collection of original stories about the "characters" appearing inside the windows.

Poster Panels

Look Who's Reading!

If you were to peek in on *your* RIF kids reading at home, what would you see? Inside the empty window goes a reading self-portrait. You could also send a copy of this window to local celebrities like your mayor, principal, fire chief, or bus driver and ask them to send in their reading portraits. If windows are not being saved for a scrapbook, use the windows you collect from kids and others to create a bulletin board or display peopled by your community of readers!

Headline News

"Books made me what I am today" headlines the news as your readers fast forward to the year 2015. As future VIPs, they are asked to recount their success stories, acknowledging the role of reading.

Award-Winning Books

An array of ribbons show which books your kids most prize.

Reader's Time Capsule

Kids make a Reader's Time Capsule (each child's own, or a collective capsule). Inside goes a Capsule Questionnaire and other assorted memorabilia. Store capsules in a closet or safe place many months before reopening. Kids delight in discovering how much they grow and change.

Reader's Checklist

Oh, the places people read! Sometimes we're not even aware that we're doing it. Have kids consult their family and friends as they go through the list and take inventory of *all* their reading activities.

Autographs

Can you remember who read to you when you were young? Encourage kids to collect the signatures of their favorite reading buddies—mom, dad, brothers, sisters, grandparents, teachers, special friends. Reading sentiments are also appropriate. We've started kids off with a few words of encouragement from their friends at RIF.

Growing Up Reading Scrapbook

Here's a special cover page to top each child's Growing Up Reading Scrapbook. Provide the necessary bindery supplies: a hole punch and ribbons, yarn, or brass fasteners.