"Read Like Crazy" You Tube Video Celebrates One School, One Book

Papillion, Nebraska

What a fabulous surprise to find this way cool video on You Tube from Nebraska! In February Tara Heights Elementary School families read *The Lemonade War* by Jacqueline Davies. Tara Heights has spread OSOB to four other elementary schools in Papillion, NE. Their clever music teacher, Ms. Kay Johnson, created her own adaptation of the NY State Reading Association’s parody of the US Olympic team’s “Call Me Maybe” video. She personalized the words to create this fabulous OSOB video! Mrs. Jill Kueny, literacy facilitator, filmed the kids throughout the school in snippets dancing to a recording of the Tara Heights ‘Read Like Crazy Chorus.’ She used a Flip camera, and a creative staff member used Movie Maker to finish the job! The results speak for themselves. You can access the lyrics to “Read Like Crazy” and make your own video using this link: www.readtothem.org.

Possible uses of any OSOB video:

- Use it in the OSOB kick off assembly (like Tara Heights along with a 30-second clip from author Jackie Davies).
- Share the OSOB video with the school board to introduce a ODOB board presentation.
- Share it with the other schools in your district at the opening district teachers’ meeting in August or September (GREAT way to recruit other district elementary schools).
- Post the video on your school’s OSOB website for all to see and enjoy!
- Show the video to community service groups to seek financial backing next year and in the future (Rotary, Lions Club, etc.) or local book clubs.
- Use ‘Read Like Crazy’ to publicize OSOB on local television stations!
- Present the OSOB program at any reading/literacy conference using the video as a “gotcha” moment.

We even found Tara Heights’ mascot with the OSOB selection on Facebook. Yes, Tara Heights also uses social media to get the word out!

Tara Heights! You are a WINNER!

YOU TUBE LINK FOR “READ LIKE CRAZY” VIDEO

[www.http://t.co/0NMkF2T7](http://t.co/0NMkF2T7)
58th Annual IRA Convention
San Antonio....Here We Come!
Read To Them’s HUGE Presence at International Reading Association

Read To Them Symposium
“Promoting Family Involvement ‘One Book’ At A Time”
Saturday, April 20 11:00 a.m.-1:45 p.m.
(San Antonio Convention Center Room 006D)

After hearing keynote speaker, LeVar Burton (Reading Rainbow host), stick around for RTT’s informative symposium featuring John Micklos, children’s book author and former editor of Reading Today. Also featured are teachers with enthusiasm and experiences practicing OSOB and ODOB in the USA and Canada, two college professors speaking of the benefits of OSOB, two superintendents, and successful children’s author, Betty G. Birney, author of the Humphrey series (a popular OSOB selection) telling about her interactions with OSOB schools. Stop by the Read To Them booth in the exhibitors hall next to Penguin Books featuring book signing by author Betty G. Birney. Bring your Humphrey books for her to autograph! Mention this newsletter to anyone in the Read To Them booth and get a special prize! Complete information is available at http://t.co/UCJZGEJC.

“One District, One Book: Creating a Community of Readers, One Book At A Time”
IRA Workshop
Sunday, 4/21/13
Grand Hyatt, Texas Ballroom
11:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.

Taking One School, One Book to the Next Level
• Learn about one district’s successful implementation of One District, One Book.
• Inspiration and perspective from experienced ODOB organizers, teachers, principals and superintendents.
• Explore the One School, One Book family literacy program and learn how to become a OSOB participant.
• Get ideas for implementing a OSOB Family Night.
• Learn how to take OSOB to the Community Level for a huge impact!
• For OSOB schools and all ODOB Wannabees!

IRA CONVENTION ONLINE REGISTRATION
http://www.reading.org/annual-convention/2013/registration/
SOUTH ANNA ELEMENTARY SCHOOL
PUMPED ABOUT READING

Reading Specialist Hillary Billingsley arrives!
Hanover School District
Montpelier, VA

“Harley-Davidson motorcyclists rocked bandanas and sunglasses. A 1980’s impersonator of Guns N’ Roses singer Axl Rose received hollers after being introduced. And a woman with a dirt bike prompted deafening roars from the audience. That was the scene in South Anna Elementary School’s auditorium as students waited anxiously — not for the start of a rock concert, but for the unveiling of a book for their new reading program “One School, One Book.” explained the Richmond Times Dispatch. During the kick-off faculty and staff dressed in bandanas, chains, fake tattoos, and lots of denim and leather to celebrate the motorcycle theme! South Anna’s reading specialist, Hillary Billingsley, says the program is designed to get students excited about reading, adding that it’s impossible to build a literate society strictly by handing out homework assignments. “We want to create lifelong readers,” Billingsley said. “We don’t want our students to feel like they only read because they have to at school.” More than 600 copies of Beverly Cleary’s The Mouse and the Motorcycle were given to students thanks to funding from the school’s PTA and several local donors. “Most of the other elementary schools in Hanover also participate in the program,” said Billingsley. “One School, One Book is a great reading motivator. This program gets the students excited about reading, and in turn, they get their parents interested and involved,” South Anna Elementary School teacher Mary Ellen Snead added. “It is a wonderful opportunity for family time, which often gets replaced these days with the use of individual handheld electronics, among other things.” She also reports that teachers are encouraged to read the recommended pages each night and challenge their students with questions and discussions about the book each day making school to home connections!

OSOB INNOVATIONS

Sauk Rapids-Rice School District, Minnesota
This ODOB school district Introduced their ODOB selection by creating a ODOB float in their town 4th of July Parade. Publicize this in advance and see how many folks show up to see what this year’s book will be!

Fawn Hollow Elementary, Connecticut
Tips to reach ALL
- To serve kids whose parents aren’t reading nightly (or cannot read), they video taped chapter readings to show daily on classroom SMART boards just before dismissal. Using SMART boards is a smart way to reach every child! (Only show to those who aren’t getting their OSOB calendars initialed.)
- Key people in the school read chapters aloud that were posted on the school website so parents who couldn’t read with their children on any given night had another option.

Timmons Elementary, Ohio
As if reading a non-fiction book - Grayson, by Lynne Cox, an inspiring whale story - wasn’t enough, this school really expands the OSOB experience. Check out Timmons’ impressive website and multitude of related activities. http://www.kenston.k12.oh.us/wordpress/osob/

Sharpsville Elementary, Pennsylvania
For their OSOB kickoff assembly, they wrote a script of the first chapter for a few students to dramatize. The Chapter 1 skit of The Miraculous Journey of Edward Tulane kept the attention of over 600 students without microphones! That was some play!!

Union Elementary, Ohio
Union Elementary introduced their book at a special “Happy New Year” party the night before the first day of school. Families came in, visited their children’s new classrooms, met the teachers, and enjoyed a light supper. A skit on the book was performed and OSOB explained to everyone. A September OSOB seems like a great way to begin the school year!!
What Happens When OSOB Students Become Middle Schoolers?

Heathsville, VA. Northumberland Elementary School families have engaged in One District, One Book (ODOB), since 2001. When these elementary students became middle schoolers, they were well rehearsed in family read aloud time. Stacy Lee, Reading Specialist, decided to capitalize on this well-trained population by beginning ODOB in the Northumberland County Middle School. What happened was amazing! Homeroom class competitions sprung into action, and students were overheard saying, “I’ll help him buy it. We have to get everyone!” Kids were chipping in with one another to insure that no one was left out! The result was 100% of the new sixth grade class reading *Al Capone Does My Shirts* by Gennifer Choldenko. Mrs. Lee said, “It was an easy sell as the habit of reading had already been established.” But an interesting thing happened...parents also didn’t want to give up the shared experience of OSOB. The rich conversations that emerged from shared reading could continue with other books giving families opportunities to share values and opinions on topics not always encountered around the dinner table. Sharing a book helps keep precious parent-child communications open. OSOB has a way of doing just that!

IRA International Conference Symposium:

“One Book, One Summer”

Making A Difference With an Engaging Summer Reading Project for Middle School Students

Sunday April 21 9:00 a.m. - 11:45 a.m. Grand Hyatt, Room Presidio B

Presenters: Maureen Rust, Library/Media Specialist, Rebecca H. Schilke, Reading Specialist and Deborah Ellis, Award Winning Author

Wheeler Middle/High School - North Stonington, Connecticut

This Symposium is an interesting spin on OSOB. The program has middle school students, staff, and faculty reading one book over the summer. Wheeler Middle School/High School Library/Media Specialist, Maureen Rust, and Reading Specialist, Rebecca Schilke, collaborated to develop this program. Schilke explained to RTT that this program evolved out of her concern that her middle school students were not reading for pleasure (in fact not reading at all by choice). After establishing a built-in daily reading time, Rust, Schilke and Joe Cawley (MS English teacher) created “One Book, One Summer” to engage students in reading over the summer. Two books they used successfully were: *The Tapestry*, by Henry Neff and *No Ordinary Day*, by Deborah Ellis. Next summer they plan to read *Drums, Girls and Dangerous Pie* by Jordan Sonnenblick. These books were chosen because they take students to a different time and place thereby enhancing and enriching their lives. A One Book, One Summer reading blog was established to provide opportunities to share thoughts while reading the book, and a mid-summer meeting was held to further discuss the text. The school superintendent and members of the staff were encouraged to read and participate in the blog and meetings. Its success led the principal to declare that OBOS will be a required school activity next summer! A September culmination featured some kind of author connection, either an author Skype session or a personalized author visit (as with author Deborah Ellis). Ms. Rust secured a grant to help offset the cost of the books for this program, and obtained another to provide funds for an author visit and author presentations to groups of students. In addition some Wheeler students engaged in a month-long adult/student book club entitled “Middle Ground” in which students chose an adult they knew to participate in reading a chosen book with them and meeting weekly for one month to discuss it together. The latest Middle Ground book was *Wonder*, by R. J. Palacio. OSOB participants will find this a good “fit” for continuing the benefits of OSOB. Don’t miss this IRA Symposium on April 21st.