

THE BOOKERY

A Library in Every School

*Education is the most powerful weapon
which you can use to change the world*
(Nelson Mandela)



Why do we need school libraries in South Africa?

Literacy and numeracy are the first steps towards social and economic change for both individuals and communities anywhere in the world.

Schools that have well-stocked, functioning libraries have better literacy levels and educational outcomes than those that don't.

Well-functioning libraries:

- provide access to books for learning and recreation,
- serve as a platform for other educational initiatives such as literacy programmes, reading, writing, poetry and drama clubs.

So what's the problem?

92% of South African public schools don't have libraries. Literacy levels are as low as 13% in some provinces.

What does The Bookery do?

The Bookery sets up well-equipped libraries in South African public schools. Each library contains a minimum of three books per learner, and caters for the needs and interests of its readership through a comprehensive selection of fiction, non-fiction and reference works.

But a library isn't just about the books. The success of any library hinges on a dedicated librarian who can "Bring the School Library to Life". A school library can't exist in isolation but it must have a skilled, dedicated and knowledgeable librarian. Without the librarian component, a school library will remain a room full of books and never act as a catalyst to improve literacy levels in South Africa.

The Bookery works closely with the South African Department of Education (DBE) so as to align with the National Education and Literacy Strategy. At present the Western Cape Education Department (WCED) is represented at Trustee level. We also have strong partnerships with local and international literacy organisations.



- The Bookery
- Creates functional libraries
- Trains librarians
- Supports literacy programmes
- Improves education
-

The Bookery
has established
42
libraries
in South Africa

40 500
children
have benefited

142 000
books
have been distributed

Finding the right partners is the key to our success



How can you help?

The Bookery depends on donations from individuals and companies. We're a registered NGO/NPO with a tax deductible status under South African law.

You can help by:

- Contributing to the purchase of books, shelving, computers, library systems, stationery and furniture.
- Adopting a school librarian for a year by paying for their training and/or salary.

Contact us:

If you are interested in partnering with The Bookery or finding out more about us, contact:

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The UNESCO Manifesto for School Libraries reads:

“The school library, the local gateway to knowledge, provides a basic condition for lifelong learning, independent decision-making and cultural development of the individual and social groups.

This Manifesto proclaims UNESCO's belief in the school library system as a living force for education, culture and information and as an essential agent for the fostering of peace and spiritual welfare through the minds of men and women.”

