

Finding and Selecting Children's Literature

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Creating a Classroom Library

- Having reading materials available in the classroom is extremely important
 - Children can use to practice reading
 - Teachers can use to teach content in all subjects
 - Availability of trade books (NOT textbooks) communicates the importance of lifelong reading and learning
- It takes time – YEARS – to create a classroom library.
 - Begin building a library now, and it will grow

Finding Children's Books

- Link with book sellers in Jos to reserve children's books for you when they find them
- Abuja has a number of good book stores
 - **Silverbird Shopping Complex**
 - **Cassava Republic**, Shop 62b Arts and Craft village opposite Sheraton Hotel

Finding Money for Children's Books

- Ask for money
 - Create a 1-page request for funds that includes:
 - The amount requested
 - Kinds and number of books to be bought
 - A description of the benefit to students and teaching
 - Who to ask:
 - Principal/Proprietor
 - PTA
 - Community groups
 - Local businesses
- Earn books
 - Host a book/toy fair – display books from a bookseller and the school can get a percent
 - Host a fundraiser (e.g., launching)

Free Children's Stories Online

- **International Children's Digital Library:** Build a collection of books that represents outstanding historical and contemporary books from throughout the world
 - <http://en.childrenslibrary.org/>
 - Free, but requires online access
- **Digital Book Index:** Provides links to more than 165,000 full-text digital books from more than 1800 commercial and non-commercial publishers, universities, and various private sites
 - <http://www.digitalbookindex.org/SEARCH/search010childt.asp>
- **Loyal Books:** Public domain (out of copyright) books in audio and e-format
 - <http://www.loyalbooks.com/>
 - Free and downloadable, though mostly for older children

Free Children's Stories Online

- **Online Children's Stories:** Provides links to websites that have stories for children
 - <http://people.ucalgary.ca/~dkbrown/stories.html>
- **Children's Storybooks Online:** Simple illustrated texts
 - <http://www.magickeys.com/books/>
 - Free, but requires online access

Children's eBooks: Payment Required

- **Epic!**: Unlimited selection of eBooks that can be instantly discovered, read and shared with friends
 - <https://www.getepic.com/>
 - \$4.99 per month access to ebooks (about N1,800 per month)
 - Requires constant internet connection
- **Amazon:** Buy ebooks that are downloaded onto a computer or smart phone, read through the free Kindle App
 - <https://www.amazon.com/Childrens-Kindle-eBooks/b?ie=UTF8&node=155009011>
 - Range in price from \$0.99 (about N350) upwards

Create Books

- Books can be created by:
 - Children
 - Older Children
 - Teacher
 - Parents
- Ideas for Classroom Books
 - Autobiography of each child/teacher
 - Class-developed story (each child adds a sentence; stories created by the class)
 - Stories by individual children on a theme (Fortunately, Unfortunately)
 - All children write on a writing prompt (google: writing prompt kindergarteners)
- Once the book has been completed (and thoroughly edited for grammar and spelling) spiral bind the books

