

1: Hilarie Davis (Author of Building a Culture of Literacy Month-By-Month)

Building a Culture of Literacy Month-By-Month and millions of other books are available for Amazon Kindle. Learn more Enter your mobile number or email address below and we'll send you a link to download the free Kindle App.

Jamberry by Bruce Degen. It is a book about a boy and a bear on a berry-themed adventure. Though it is torn and the spine is decaying, the book continues to travel with her everywhere she goes today. School 36, like other urban schools across the country, is a high poverty school where students struggle with literacy achievement. Principal Paul Montanarello, a veteran school leader who has worked tirelessly to improve student achievement, has made literacy a top priority. A partnership between the Warner School and School 36 was formed in after local philanthropist and School 36 graduate Sheila Konar saw a need to help students achieve better results and decided to do something about it. Today, Project READ is funded through the generous support of Konar, who continues to volunteer her time to working with students at her alma mater. George, an assistant professor at Warner who helps direct the literacy project at School For example, grocery lists are part of an authentic literacy task at home, St. Using a planned strategic interventionâ€”a balanced approach that consists of reading, writing, listening, and speaking, as well as authentic testsâ€”they connect instruction to real-life literacy and opportunities in the real world. Word play, like singing songs with lyrics that rhyme, helps make everything come together for these students. These opportunities help School 36 teachers reach the needs of more students in their classrooms and students to achieve success in reading and writing. The project also has helped students have a greater appreciation not only for their ability, but also for the use of literacy in their own life. Literacy is becoming a part of their world, where they now see themselves as writers and learners, talking about books and reading for meaning. For graduate students like Jennifer Barrows, it was a great accomplishment to turn reluctant students into more motivated and confident readers and writers. It is so rewarding to see students change their attitude toward reading and writing. For Warner graduate students, forming relationships with teachers and students along with building trust have helped contribute to the success of the project. I will continue to put students first and devote time in the classroom to building a strong community because this impacts learning significantly. Warner has a strong commitment to urban teaching and social justice. The project sets out to prepare agents of change who are going to go out into communities in need, specifically urban communities, and approach literacy instruction in a child-centered way that enhances their lives. Not only will students from School 36 benefit from this project, but it will also help future students across the country who will be served by these teachers. The project helps to make graduate students reflective as future and current practicing teachers. By identifying specific literacy needs, I am able to plan lessons around the skills that are needed. Once she taught them strategies to use to make reading easier, they started enjoying books, she says. According to Warner student Hostuttler, the project has helped her to learn and practice valuable skills as well as try new techniques based on specific student needs. Hostuttler was grateful to learn that one of her ideas for summer learning, an environmental literacy activity, is one that they continue to use at home today. George says that this is a wonderful opportunity for Warner graduate students to take on leadership roles in literacy in the community. George, who also has held bi-weekly professional development sessions with teachers at the school and presented a half-day workshop on literacy. George and educators at School 36, meanwhile, hope to build up an army of graduate students, alumni, and retired teachers to help improve literacy in our community.

2: Building a Culture of Literacy Month-By-Month by Hilarie B. Davis

Celebrate literacy every day! This book will help you create a culture of literacy at your school, from the classroom, to the lunchroom, to the hallways-a culture that encompasses students, teachers, administrators, families, and communities.

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