

Brownie Quest
Take Action Project Sample Sessions: Right-On Reading

America has made a commitment to literacy through the America Reads programs. The goal of this program is to teach all children to read by the time they complete the third grade. Girls can encourage reading through the creation of a display that celebrates reading.

Session 1

Where are Words?—*examine the importance of reading*
Book Bonanza—*get excited about reading*
The What and Where of the Library—*locate the local library*

Session 2

Display Decision Making—*choose a display location*
Display Production—*display creation*

Session 3

Display Installation—*presentation and celebration*

Session 4

Scrapbook—*create a visual representation of the project*

Session 1: Where are Words?

Objective: Examine the importance of reading.
Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Discussion:

Create a discussion based on the following questions:

- Where do you find words in the world?
- Where are there words in this room?
- Why do we need words?
- What do words do for us?
- Why is it important to know how to read?

Session 1: Book Bonanza

Objective: Encourage excitement about books and reading.
Time Allotment: 15 minutes
Materials Needed:

- Books

Preparation Needed:

- Ask girls to bring books or check out books from the library.

Sharing Circle:

Girls can share their favorite book. If they do not have one with them, ask them to share something they read in a book. You may also have some books on hand for girls to use. Use this time to really explore books and their many stories and uses. Get excited about reading!

Session 1: The What and Where of the Library

Objective: Girls can identify the library and are familiar with the local library location.

Time Allotment: 15 minutes

Preparation Needed:

1. Find the local library.
2. Optional: make a map or another visual representation for where library location.

Discussion:

Create a discussion based on the following questions.

- Books contain words. Where can you find books? Store, home, library, etc.
- The library and store are good places to find books. What is the difference between getting books at the store and getting books at the library?
- Where is the library (either school or community)? Use map to show the location of the library.

Session 2: Display Decision

Objective: Choose a place for the display.

Time Allotment: 10 minutes

Discussion:

Create a discussion based on the following questions.

- What is your favorite kind of candy? How did you find out about that kind of candy? Friends, family members, advertising, etc.
- We learn about things when people tell us about them. How can we tell people about books and reading? Could we make an advertisement for books and reading? Where could we put these advertisements?
- Where would you like to advertise books and reading? Let's vote.

Session 2: Display Production

Objective: Create a display promoting books and reading.

Time Allotment: 30 minutes

Materials Needed:

Depending on creativity of girls and materials available, suggestions include:

- Poster board
- Markers, paints, etc.
- Dolls
- Puppets
- Calendars
- Books

Creative Activity:

Use the creativity and imagination of the girls to make the display. Some ideas for displays are:

1. Make posters of lists of favorite books or people enjoying reading.
2. Collect books you want to donate and display them.
3. Make a display of famous women in the community with their favorite books.
4. Make a display of your community's story.
5. Make puppets and dolls of the characters in a book; put them on display with the book.

Session 3: Installation

Objective: Celebrate the creation of the display.

Time Allotment: Depends on commitment of site.

Prep Needed:

- Arrange for a visit and possibly a tour. Invite family members to accompany girls.

Site Visit:

Visit the site where the display will take place. Spend some time exploring the library and celebrating the installation of the display. Invite family members and site staff for the unveiling.

Session 4: Scrapbook

Objective: Create a visual journal of the project.

Time Allotment: 20 minutes

Materials Needed:

- Camera
- Photo album

Prep Needed

1. Purchase or borrow a camera.
2. Take photos and ask girls to take photos throughout the project.

Creative Activity:

1. Gather girls in a circle.
2. Pass out photos or allow girls to choose photos.
3. Ask girls to talk about the photos and what they learned from the project.
4. Ask girls to write their thoughts on paper.
5. Create a scrapbook of photos and thoughts.