

Gift of Literacy

Inspiring Young Readers Through Partnership



Gift of Literacy is a six-month program that promotes a love for reading in our youngest students and encourages literacy in our community. Research shows that a reading intervention at an early age is directly related to inspiring long-term success in school and in life.

This program is fully funded by community businesses and organizations that view literacy as an important part of a healthy community. More than 125 volunteers, along with the financial and mentor support of our sponsors and partners, make this annual program possible.

Throughout the winter months, all first-grade students in Springfield Public Schools read ten Gift of Literacy books and select their favorite book from the collection.

On June 2, 2011 all first-grade students will be bused to Lane Community College for the annual Gift of Literacy celebration and receive:

- A hard-bound copy of the book they selected with a personalized bookplate inside.
- A reusable Gift of Literacy backpack filled with educational goodies (pencils, rulers, bookmarks, etc.).
- And, this year, every student was given the opportunity to receive a Springfield Public Library card through the program for one year. Cards will be distributed by teachers in the classroom for students who submitted an application.

Complete Gift of Literacy book sets are available in the Springfield Public Library and in every elementary school library for students to enjoy year-round.

The 2011 Gift of Literacy books are:

The Pencil by Allan Ahlberg

Big Chickens by Leslie Helakoski

A Couple of Boys Have the Best Week Ever
by Marla Frazee

Sonia Sotomayor by Jonah Winter

Henry & the Crazy Chicken Pirates
by Carolyn Crimi

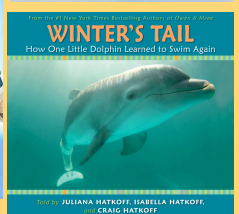
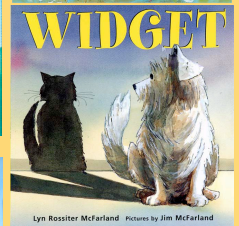
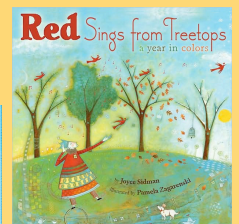
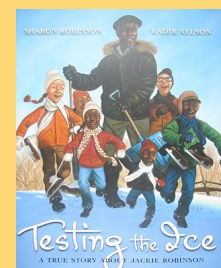
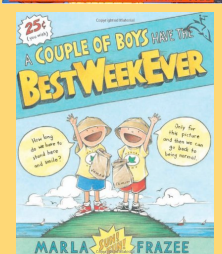
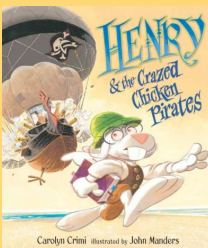
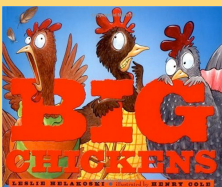
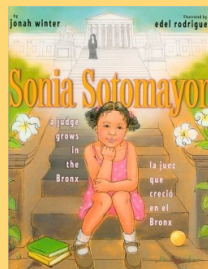
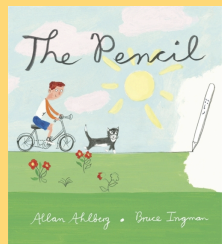
The Perfect Gift by Mary Newell DePalma

Testing the Ice by Sharon Robinson

Red Sings from Treetops by Joyce Sidman

Widget by Lyn Rossiter McFarland

Winter's Tail by Juliana Hatkoff



The daylong celebration is divided into three main parts:

Kick-Off Activity

Students will engage in a story activity with a guest speaker and be presented with his or her book and backpack.

Small Group Reading

Students will then be separated into groups of 7-10 to have one of the ten titles read aloud by a community leader.

Lunch

Students will be provided a free, wholesome lunch from district nutrition services.

The meal includes:

Turkey or cheese sandwich, no condiments

Baby carrots

Choice of apple or banana

Rice Krispie treat

Choice of milk or juice

Note: If your student has severe allergies or dietary restrictions, please coordinate with the school principal to bring an appropriate lunch.

Gift of Literacy is a program of:

Rotary Clubs of Springfield

- Springfield Rotary
- Twin Rivers Rotary

TEAM Springfield

- City of Springfield
- Springfield Public Schools
- Springfield Utility Board
- Willamalane Park & Recreation District

The 2011 Gift of Literacy program is sponsored by:

Springfield Education Foundation

Cressey Family Charitable Trust

Lane Community College

Weyerhaeuser

SELCO Community Credit Union

Comcast

First Tech Credit Union

Wildish Land Co.

Oregon Community Credit Union

PacificSource Health Plans

The Register-Guard

Books are provided at a discounted rate by:

Scholastic Book Fairs

UO Duck Store