

STORYBOOK

FRIENDS

PROJECT

ACTIVE

CITIZEN

May 2011

Storybook Friends
The Story of our Youth as Resources Project
2011

It all started when Rae met Jessica Safransky.
That is when she learned about Youth as Resources.



Racine County Youth As Resources



Rae invited Jessica to come to help us brainstorm ideas for a project. Soon, we had a decision- we wanted to work with children!

So, we got busy with our proposal. We submitted it, and soon we got the news! Our project was accepted. We got the grant!

United Way of Racine County

2000 Domanik Drive, Racine, WI 53404

Phone: 262-898-2240

Fax: 262-898-2241

www.unitedwayracine.org

April 29, 2011

Jahnna Newholm
348 Paul Street
Burlington, WI 53105

Dear Jahnna,

Congratulations! Your project, "Storybook Friends," has been awarded a Youth As Resources (YAR) grant. A check in the amount of \$652.04 will be sent to Rae Guth at Project Active Citizen.

As the Youth Contact Person for your project, it is your responsibility to share this information with the members of your group and your Adult Contact Person, Rae Guth. Your group should carefully read the terms and conditions outlined in this letter before you proceed with your project. Please contact me by May 6 to confirm receipt and acceptance of this Funding Agreement.



**GIVE. ADVOCATE. VOLUNTEER.
LIVE UNITED.** 

We had to go shopping! We needed to purchase juice boxes and fruit snacks for snacks with the kids. We also had to buy the books and stuffed animals.



Before we went to the classrooms we loaded the boxes with our supplies. We brought a book, a stuffed animal, and a snack for each class.



The fun began when we started going to the classrooms. The kids loved to hear the stories and we loved reading to them!



Here is Sammy reading and Danyelle holding the llama.

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This book was presented to you by
the students of
PROJECT ACTIVE CITIZEN
through a Youth as Resources grant from United Way
2011



Every book that we gave the kids had a name plate in it.

Jenna and Jahnna getting ready to share a story with their new friends.



Adam and Seth share a story while Danyelle helps with the llama.



Jenna read the book in Braille while Jahnna showed the pictures.



Here she shows the kids the Braille—Cool!



Stephanie loved to add sound effects to her storytelling.



The kids loved it!



Juice and.....



Fruit snacks are a fun snack!



We went to 27 different classes in seven different schools, so we were always packing boxes for our visits.



We did lots and.....



lots, and lots.....



of reading!



We reconnected with former teachers. Here's Seth with the teacher he had when he was three!



More importantly, we made many new friends!

Even though we received many thanks for coming into the schools....

Dear Jenna
and Stephanie
Thank you

We are the ones who are truly thankful! We feel that we are lucky to have been able to be part of the Storybook Friends project.

I learned that little kids are very funny and sweet to be around with and that they really like to listen to new stuff. Adam

I got really good at turning the pages in the book..I really liked doing sound effects for the story. I liked helping with the fruit snacks and drinks. I liked holding the stuffed animal when my friend read the story. Mike

I learned that I love kids. And I learned that I will be a good parent someday. Stephanie

What I have learned about reading the book was that there are good listeners. There is a lot of different types of pre K schools that have a lot of good students. *Seth*

Reading to kids is fun. It was fun to go to a school that I attended when I was younger. *Danyelle*

I learned a lot while reading to kids. I learned that lots of kids like different stories. I also learned how to interact with children and to get them to enjoy the story. I also learned how to teach children the right way to become a good role model for them. This was a project I really enjoyed doing and I hope it will help me learn how to reach my goal to become a daycare teacher in the future. *Samantha*

It was a challenge to organize. Kids were friendly. I like to work with kids. *Edna*

I learned a whole bunch of things while doing this project. I was stepping out of my comfort zone to tell the children why I am in a chair. I also learned that I have my own rights and tell the children what I want to about myself. But it never hurts to practice why I'm in a chair and I admit it that I need to accept the fact that I am who I am and to be proud instead of angry about my emotions of who I am today. *Jahanna*

I learned that the kids were very nice and they listened. They enjoyed the book and the snack and they were very thankful. They were happy and they enjoyed our company. I learned I could be a teacher. I taught somebody what my cane was for. This was good experience because I want to be a teacher. I hope we can do something like this again next year. *Jenna*

To top everything off, we even got picked for the Great Grant Award---Thank you Youth as Resources and United Way!

Standard Press **OPINION**

Young students made a meaningful connection

The staff and students from Project Active Citizen (PAC House) would like to extend our gratitude to the early childhood and kindergarten classes and their teachers from Waller, Winkler, Cooper, Lyons, Woodfield, Evergreen, and Trailside schools.

They graciously invited our group to come into their classrooms and allowed us to read a story to the children and share a snack with them.

The interaction between the children and young adults was wonderful!

This project was made possible through a Youth As Resources grant from United Way, so we are thankful to them as well!

Thank you to all involved!

*Rae Guth
Advisor,
Project Active Citizen*