

Literacy Champions Needed !

Help Change Swindon's Children's Life Stories

SWINDON
STORIES



Do you live in Swindon and want to help improve the literacy levels of children and young people in your community? We're recruiting for Literacy Champions to support our Swindon Stories campaign.

Literacy Champions can take on a variety of roles:

Parent Literacy Champion

You promote reading for pleasure amongst parent friends and their children. Do a Winnie the Pooh picnic; go on a Bear Hunt; or take a group of parents and children to the local library to become members. Help older children set up a reading group with their friends or set up a reading group for adults. Activities can be run in your native language and we can help with **multilingual** books too!

Digital Literacy Champion

This could take many forms and is aimed at creating content for our social media channels. Video a short reading of your favourite (children's) book. Model literacy activities and share pictures with us. Write & perform a rap or a story. Video yourself reading a book or singing a nursery rhyme with puppets. Like, comment on and share our social media posts.

Book Hider Literacy Champion

We provide you with some books, plastic wallets and promotional postcards. You hide the books around your local park - kids find them - job done!

Youth Literacy Champion

Are you over 16 and would you like to inspire your friends and younger children to read for pleasure and build up work experience at the same time? Youth Literacy Champions can set a **fantastic** example to their peers. Run activities, mini libraries and spread the message at school, college, scouting, guiding or any other youth club.

Eco Literacy Champion

Are you interested in the environment? Our Eco Literacy Champion resources are full of ideas to help you design an eco story trail; set up a small **eco library** or recycle books by holding a book swap event.

Community Literacy Champion

Lead story time sessions, run story trails, organise themed book parties in your community. Set up a weekly parent & child group offering story time and related craft activities. We help you develop your ideas and can provide story time and story trail **training**.

Work-based Literacy Champion

Do you work or volunteer with kids or young people already? We can provide you with **free books** as giveaways or as prizes (great for sports camps for example). Do you run a local toddler group? Add a story & song time - we can train you. Are you based at a nursery or primary school? Add some literacy activities or theme days, we'll give you books to hand out. Do you provide a mental health support service? Set up a reading group to encourage reading for mental health.

Why does Swindon need Literacy Champions?

Eight wards in Swindon are in the most deprived 10% nationally. 41% of the most disadvantaged students in Swindon left primary school unable to read well.

Not being able to read, write or communicate well holds people back at every stage of their life, from school to the jobs market. We want to help children and young people to get the literacy skills they need to get a fairer deal.

Why volunteer?

Volunteering can help with mental health, you can meet new people, gain confidence and get work experience to help get a new job. You can be part of your community and give something back! These roles are only for guidance - you can mix and match all of them. There's no minimum number of hours and we're ready to support you with your ideas.

If you'd like to make a difference to Swindon's children's chances in life through encouraging a love of reading, you're the right person for us. Get in touch with sonja.vanleeuwen@literacytrust.org.uk

