

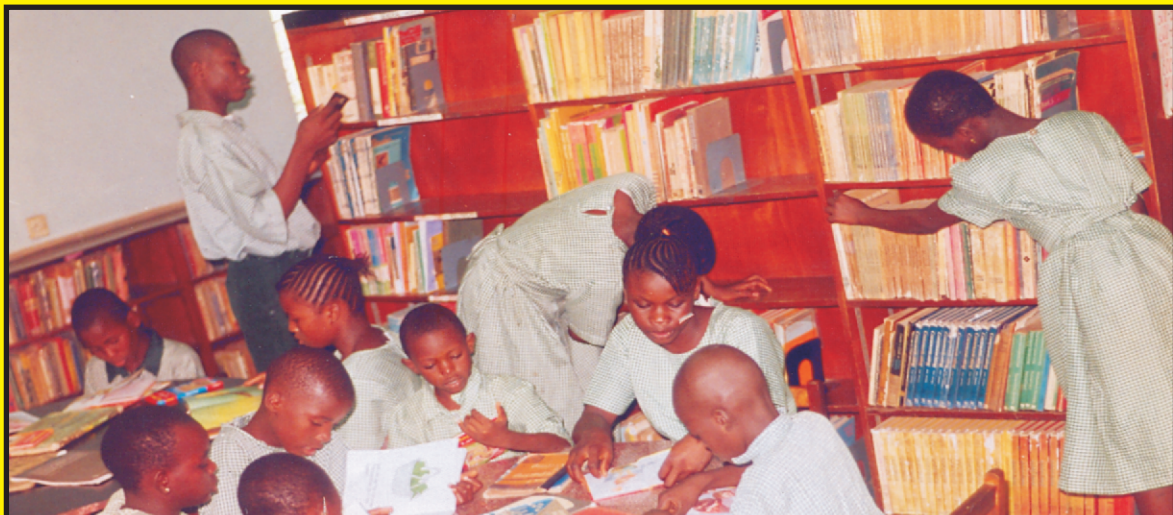
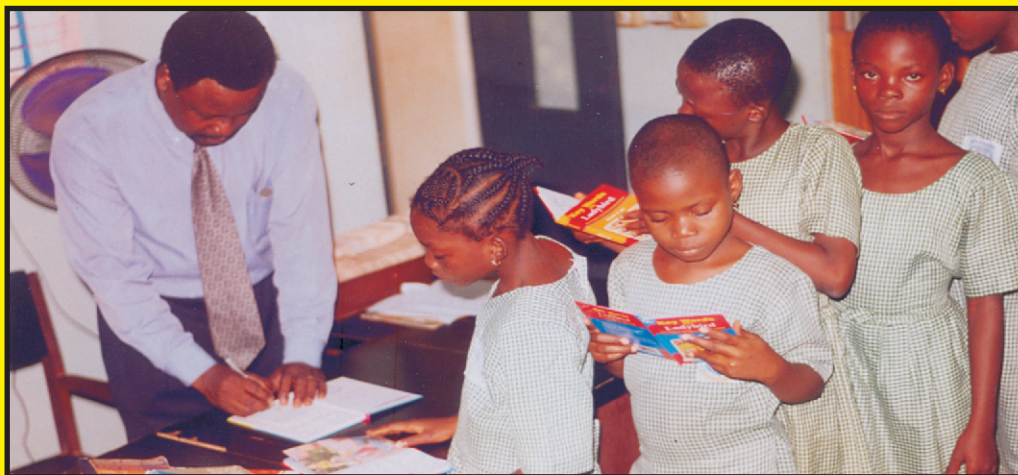
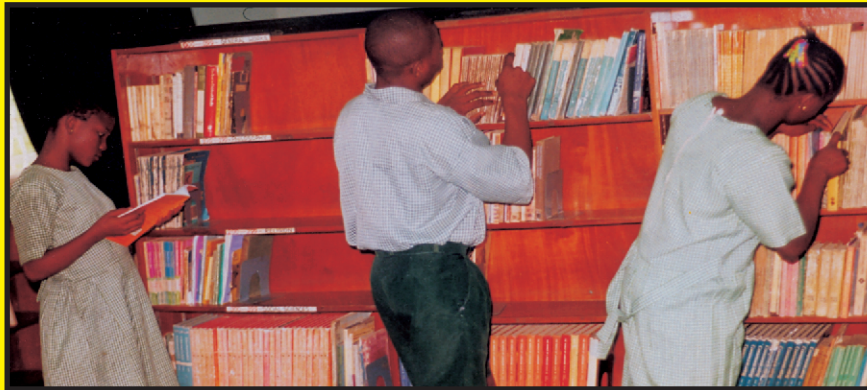


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Editorial

The online version of volume 20, March, 2021 of the Nigerian School Library Journal (NSLJ) is out to make a useful addition to the existing literature in the field of school librarianship and related fields. The volume features articles on trends of aliteracy in schools, roles of school libraries and educational achievement of students, use of bibliotherapy in improving mental health of students, environmental factors and use of school library and the place of school library in facilitating virtual access to open educational resources. There are also articles on timely provision of quality library services delivery, self-management competencies for lifelong learning of librarians, the changing landscape of higher education research in the new normal era and documentation of indigenous fishing knowledge. This edition also features sections on report of school library activities as well as book review which are new introductions to the Journal.

The volume will obviously enrich your knowledge on contemporary school librarianship as well as other library and information studies related issues, therefore, I commend it for your selection as new addition to your stock.

It is also worthy of note that the frequency of publication of the Journal has been increased to twice a year viz: March and September. We seek your support in submitting publishable articles on time. The Journal continues to be indexed by AJOL which reflects its visibility and that of the authors.

Your sustained interest in NSLJ is highly appreciated.



Prof. David F. Elaturoti
Editor-in-Chief

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Schools Activities

Innovative and Creative Library Programme for Total Child Development: A Case Study of Maitrebuilder School, Oyo State, Nigeria

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The Maitrebuilder School was established in 2015. It is situated in a densely populated area with low or no visible literacy skill. This community which is recognize as rural has a great number of private and public schools without any public library which has reduced the rate at which the learners in the locality assimilate concept of reading. We observed that lack of library in the vicinity has greatly affected the scholars who have been limited to notes written at school and some affordable text books. We came up with the idea of organizing literacy program that will expose our learners to reading in a gradual process. This idea gave birth to our yearly ECA (Extra Curricular Activities). From this, the following programmes had aced up their sleeves:

1. Spelling Bee
2. Carrier Day
3. World Fruit Day
4. Zip Up
5. My very own Library.

Spelling Bee

This was the first program introduced to learners on spelling and reading. We had it at the Sultan Bello Hall, University of Ibadan. Though first of its kind but very effective, learners got to see reading in a different form and were able to gain confidence as regards reading. Penhant Phonics Consultant and his team were present. The team anchor the spelling aspect of the Spelling Bee. All learners with their parents were so excited about the innovation.

Carrier Day

Different to what people may think, we use the opportunity to make our learners read about different profession. They were given publications to read, they made researches, some books were given to them and with these, they were encouraged to read more. They came out to tell us what they have read and it was indeed a great turn around for them. A popular musician, Goke Bajowa was in attendance, he as well was amazed at performance the learners. Parents were glad to witness this little ethics and were encouraged to prompt their ward's eagerness to do more.

Zip Up

This was another technique which booted the children's ego on reading. This we did in conjunction with Esther Foundation. This is an organization that educate on child abuse. Though our aim was to introduce efficacy of learning using different means, so they were prompted to read on child abuse. There were lots of presentations base on what they have read. They were given books to read on child abuse, effect and so on.

World Fruit Day (WFD)

We organized this program 2021 after the Covid-19 pandemic. Students had been at home for months. To bring them back on their toes since we could not do anything in 2020 due to lockdown, this lead us to WFD. Scholars came up with lot of ideas from what they read. Annotations on this were very great due to performance of scholars. This really brought their reading back to lime light after the long break.

My Very Own Library

The just concluded program in March 2022 hit the target of reading. Learners were very exposed to: Reading and its etiquettes, library and its uses, importance of reading and readers are leaders. We were honored to have a team from the Department of School Library and Media Technology, University of Ibadan in our program. The team actually trained children on the use of library, reading and how much to have a personal library at home. Improvised Libraries were displayed and students demonstrated how those improvised libraries were made.

Learners were able to realise the longest word in the dictionary (pneumonoultramicroscopicsilicovolcanoconiosis) as they read different books. Each learner was given books to start their very own Library. Graphic books like comics, manga, cartoon and animation were introduced. Children read those books and it was unbelievable to see some of them writing their story books by themselves.

Challenge

There were no libraries for the learners to read or get books, so they are restricted to the few ones given to them which incapacitate them to do extraordinarily. We believe if these children have access to a standard library, there will be a great turn around in their reading habit and their wrong impression about reading will completely disappear.

Conclusion

"A child who reads becomes an adult who thinks" Anonymous. Also, Barak Obama said and I quote "Reading is the gateway for children that make all other learning possible". At this juncture, I would encourage our government to work on the implementation of school library in the rural areas as well, because loss of interest about reading is very rampant among young adults but this can be fan to flame if there is conducive atmosphere for reading.

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