



## **School Libraries in Action**

### **Adventurers' Book Club – Information Sheet**

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# Travel the World of Reading

## City of Gosnells Library Services Book Club for Children

The City of Gosnells Libraries Young People's Services Department will be introducing a new reading club for children, *Travel the World of Reading*, during term 1, 2006.

The need for a new concept in children's services came about through the lack of interest and support in the current regular programmes, i.k. club and 4-7's. Both of these programmes focus on the children doing various craft activities. There is an i.k. club at both Thornlie library and Kenwick library while the 4-7's is run at the Knowledge Centre. With the attendance at these three programmes dwindling (i.k. club at Kenwick has had 0 attendance for the last 3 months; the 4-7's at the Knowledge Centre has 0-1 regular attendee and the i.k. club at Thornlie has 2 - 5 regular attendees) it was decided that we would have to either reconsider the current format or come up with a completely new concept.

Statistics indicate the City of Gosnells has 6727 junior library members aged 12 and over (9762 aged 16 and under). Therefore it is obvious that if only a percentage of our junior members use the libraries on a regular basis, we still have a good number to offer a reading club to.

### **The primary objectives will be:**

- To reduce staff time spent on providing craft activities to a very few children.
- To increase staff time spent on more valuable outreach to the children who visit the library and borrow books.
- Increase the number of children in the COG who read library books.
- Increase the number of children in the COG who visit their library.
- Develop and foster in children an ongoing interest in reading books.
- Encourage children to further their literacy skills.
- Develop partnerships with local businesses/sponsor/schools.

### **The proposed timetable is:**

Prior to Christmas – prepare 'teaser' flyers, to let members know that an exciting new 'thing' will be happening soon.

January school holidays – Prepare member packs and passports; design and print promotional flyers and posters; design and print membership forms, certificates, calendar, book lists etc. Visit Knowledge Centre, Kenwick Library and attend Thornlie staff meeting to inform staff of new club and the part they all can play in it.

First week, term 1 – Display promotional posters and hand out flyers – the club is OPEN!

During term 1, 2006 – Get reading club going. Prepare and promote first meeting date and activity.

End of term 1, 2006- Acquittal and reflection. Did it work?

**Travel the World of Reading Book Club format:**

1. There will be two age groups of membership in the reading club. The junior group will be aged between 4 and 9 years, while the older readers will be aged 10 to 16 years. The two subgroups will be named in a competition to be held during term 1 2006. The club will be available at all three City of Gosnells libraries.
2. Staff will hand out flyers to kids visiting the library, which include details of the club and a tear-off registration slip at the bottom of the page. Children fill in the slip, get parents to sign, and hand the flyer in to staff at the desk. The staff member then checks all details are filled out on the form (name, age, address, parents signature), files slip/flyer in container, and hands over a pre-prepared membership pack containing, club details, reading record passport, recommended book lists by genre, bookmark, badge, stickers, balloon and lolly etc.
3. Members then simply read books. As books are read the details are recorded in the colour-coded reading passport, and signed by parents to confirm. Upon reading the first ten books and filling the first page of the passport the member can get that page stamped at the desk. When stamped the child will also receive a reward such as a bookmark, sticker, lolly etc. When the passport is filled the reader receives a certificate and a prize and then goes on to another level using a different coloured passport.
4. Once a term, each age group will have an activity/meeting day. This will be advertised well in advance. Members will need to book for the meeting day. We will be providing refreshments, games, craft activities, book promotions, book talks, etc.
5. Throughout the term each library will continue to promote the reading club. Displays will also promote the club in each library. A reading club corner will be set up in each library with newsletters, book promotions etc.

**Travel the World of Reading club logo:**

The YPS team have decided that the logo will be based on the battered, old brown suitcase covered in travel stickers. The stickers will instead have author's names, series names etc. such as Narnia Chronicles, Hogwarts, Deltora, and Daisy Meadows etc.

