

SUMMARY

In Rwanda, the Unlock Literacy project was received well by government officials and the community. Families now have a better understanding about the importance of improving reading levels for their children.

Before COVID-19 restrictions on gathering were implemented, community members were selected to attend 43 trainer of trainers sessions to become reading camp facilitators.

Since schools were closed and reading camps could not be held due to the pandemic, World Vision staff members quickly developed a new plan on how children would access reading materials. Age-appropriate books were purchased and with the help of 123 volunteers they were distributed through house-to-house lending, which benefited 1,168 children.

Some additional program activities included:

- Purchasing reading camp materials and 82,880 English-language story books that will be used for additional house-to-house lending and in future reading camps
- Sharing messages with parents to support their children’s education through reading together
- Encouraging students through radio and TV to engage with remote learning programs






With schools closed and large gatherings restricted, other planned activities were not able to take place. However, staff and project team members have developed detailed contingency plans for the project and continue to look for innovative ways to reach children to help improve literacy.



“World Vision and its volunteers have made a significant contribution. They have given us books in order to continue reading different stories during COVID-19.”

–Uwimpuhwe Jolly, Rwanda

PROGRESS ON CORE ACTIVITIES

-  **1,168** children reached through house-to-house book lending
-  **123** volunteers trained to reach children and parents with story books and literacy support
-  **82,880** story books purchased
-  **31** teachers trained on reading instruction techniques to share with other teachers
-  **200** reading camps sites selected

KEY LEARNINGS

The Ministry of Education in Rwanda recently changed the language of instruction for younger students to English. As a result, our team updated our reading camp curriculum from Kinyarwanda to English, and aims to recruit reading camp volunteers with English proficiency when camps can start again. World Vision also is working closely with the ministry to prepare teachers to teach in English, which has been greatly appreciated by our Rwandan local government counterparts.

Parents have enjoyed the house-to-house book lending, which has enabled their children to read and improve their literacy skills. “These story books create curiosity among children and encourages them to read,” said Kireranyana Fabia, a parent. This also helps students practice English at home and prepares them for school.

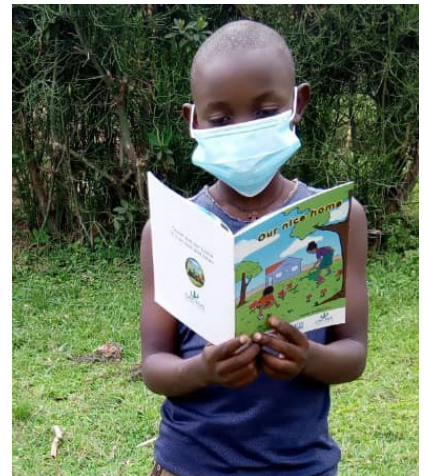
PLANS FOR THE NEXT SIX MONTHS

COVID-19 temporarily halted program implementation, but World Vision staff members have continued to adapt plans. Since reading camps are unable to meet, house-to-house book lending will continue to serve children and their families. When primary schools reopen, this will allow us to work with teachers and students again and conduct the baseline evaluation. Since large gatherings are not allowed, we are working closely with the government on approvals to schedule teacher training. However, volunteer training is planned and will be conducted in accordance with COVID-19 guidelines, including wearing a mask and social distancing.

In March and April, training is scheduled for World Vision staff members on how to use Measuring Evidence of Quality Achieved, a digital monitoring platform developed by World Vision that will help the project better track students’ progress in reading camps once they are established. They will then later train reading camp facilitators.

THANK YOU

Because of your support, children and families in Rwanda are becoming better readers, which will help them succeed in school and life, enabling them to better experience the life in all its fullness that God intends for them. Thank you for your generosity. We are thankful for your partnership.



Turikumwe Innocent, 10, reads a story book in English. Even though he is not in school, he enjoys reading and learning English.

FINANCIALS

Program spending January through September 2020

Program Description	FY20-21 Budget	FY20 Spending	Project-to-Date Spending	Project-to-Date Funding
Outcome: Improved literacy of 50,000 children by September 2021				
Established reading camps in targeted area programs	470,147	281,877	281,877	286,702
Trained primary school teachers in Unlock Literacy methodologies	99,049	-	-	-
Raised awareness among parents and other caregivers on the importance of supporting their children's literacy development	124,612	-	-	-
Established strong monitoring and evaluating system	77,480	-	-	-
Project management costs	162,762	38,066	38,066	42,169
Office operating costs	135,950	21,425	21,425	41,884
Subtotal	1,070,000	341,368	341,368	370,755
Management and Fundraising	356,667	113,789	113,789	123,585
Total	1,426,667	455,157	455,157	494,340