






LEARNER MOTIVATION AND PROMOTION OF BOOKS



All of these suggestions can be used with any class in the school, though establishing a 'culture' of books and reading is best begun with the grade 8s.

-  Bring a book along to class from time to time, show it to the learners, briefly tell them what it is about, and read a few selected extracts. Learners of all ages enjoy being told a story and they should be given the chance in turn to entertain the others with a story.
-  Use extracts from novels in language and comprehension work and tell the learners a bit about the book at the same time.
-  Use the media of film or television as 'springboards' to literary works. Call attention to literary versions of current films and suggest learners compare the two, or highlight themes and issues in current films and television programmes and mention books dealing with similar concerns.
-  Build up an audio-visual collection of recordings of poetry and drama, and slides and videos. Focus on various themes, and then recommend related books to anyone whose interest in a particular theme has been awakened.
-  Make use of display posters with colourful pictures, information and comments about books, and possibly questions to attract learner attention (e.g. Have you met Character X? or Have you heard of Situation Y?) Displays may also be theme-centred, for example "Books about Relationships". It is important to change them regularly so that interest does not wane. Their purpose is to keep learners informed about books they may want to read and to excite their interest in them. They may also stimulate pupils to read in areas with which they were previously unfamiliar. Obviously you can get the learners to make display posters along similar lines too!



- ✚ Discuss with the class the idea of being a Book Fairy.
https://ibelieveinbookfairies.com/?fbclid=IwAR0E9pkH5_3bcxdAKw1FKOWI0J2hIFvvXM-UtjrRjYsPpfgA4QBZmBpnG18

How could it work in your area? Encourage learners to become local Book Fairies.

- ✚ Are there any free libraries in the area or even in your school? Free libraries often hold more contemporary or popular literature. Discuss how you can establish one. Who would manage it? You will find some ideas here:
<https://lithub.com/ behold-these-cute-phone-booth-libraries-from-around-the-world/>



- ✚ Bring thought-provoking objects into the classroom to stimulate learners to read about them or awaken interest in a particular book. (For example, a skull borrowed from the Biology department and displayed alongside Nina Bawden's "Carrie's War" is bound to provoke interest in the novel.) Magazine articles can also accompany such displays, e.g. articles about child abuse along with Michelle Magorian's "Goodnight Mister Tom".
- ✚ Arrange desks around the outer edges of the classroom and put a carpet or rug in the open area in the middle. Encourage learners to relax and read there when they have finished with other work, or when they have some free time.
- ✚ Set lessons aside for silent reading, where learners bring along the books they have chosen and relax and read in class. The teacher should do the same.
- ✚ Survey the 'top ten' books in a class by asking learners to list the three best books they have read. Learners enjoy these and are always fascinated by the results. This should prompt them to read the popular books, or to find something similar.

Have fun encouraging a culture of reading in the classroom!

