

Freedom for the
next generation



CHRISTIANNA
FOUNDATION

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QUARTERLY NEWSLETTER

Together we can bring joy and education to the children of Nigeria

READING MADE EASY WORKSHOPS PROVING A RESOUNDING SUCCESS

January saw us usher in a new school term and the continuation of our Reading Made Easy pilot programme. We launched in 1st term with Reading Made Easy Book 1A. 300 children were selected to take part in our workshops across 10 schools. Children were selected who were not progressing with their English language skills within the regular curriculum. We started at the very beginning assuming no knowledge and using reading materials written especially for children in Nigeria. The books put a big emphasis on having stories that are fun and relatable with great illustrations to accompany the text. The workshops teach reading in English from your very first words, using a combined approach of phonic decoding, learning sight words and basic grammar. Book 1A introduced the first 10 phonetic letter sounds vowels a, e, i, o, u and consonants s, p, t, n, c plus sight words.

The popularity and effectiveness of the programme was becoming apparent by the beginning of 2nd term. The Reading Made Easy books could be seen everywhere during break times with children reading them and sharing them with other pupils whenever they had spare time in the school day. Parents and teachers had begun to ask for the programme to be extended to all pupils as the pilot group were already beginning to read in English.

There was much excitement over the launch of Book 1B in February, which introduced the next 5 phonic letter-sounds h, r, d, l, m plus new sight words. We printed and distributed another 300 Reading Made Easy books. Every child taking part in the pilot receiving a second book which was their own to keep and treasure.

“The [Reading Made Easy] innovation brings a lot of changes as many of the pupils work on these books even during their break. It has really proven to be a great teaching and learning aid.”

John Okeleye,
Christianna Foundation Project
Manager, Oyo State, Nigeria

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