

Project: "The universal book to encourage interactive reading"

Non-profit organisation: "Bibliothèque Braille Enfantine" (A.B.B.E), created in 1986
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Project goal

To produce 200 "dual-text" books (large characters and Braille) to encourage exchanges between blind and sighted children and with their families.

Presentation of the project

The Association Bibliothèque Braille Enfantine (Children's Braille library non-profit organisation) aims to promote reading among blind and visually impaired children, from kindergarten to junior secondary school, through the loan of specially adapted books throughout France and French-speaking areas in Europe. The organisation's library has 2,200 specially adapted books.

The project "the universal book to encourage interactive reading" consists of producing 200 illustrated "dual-text" (large characters and Braille) books. A text solely in Braille is not attractive to a sighted child, and does not encourage him or her to exchange views or impressions with a blind child. Thanks to the universal book, a visually impaired child will be able to initiate dialogue both within the family and at school.

The project hopes to cater for some 300 visually impaired and blind children from 4 to 12.

Involvement of parents / mentors

Parents can read the books with their children and help them make their first discoveries in literature.

Support requested from the Fondation HSBC pour l'Education

Funding: The Foundation grant will be used to finance production of 200 specially adapted books.

Grant awarded for 2007: **€5,000** (100% of the project budget)

Human resources:

- Reading of books for transcription
- Data acquisition at home of the books selected by the reading committee