



L-r: Chelsea Thompson, Robyn Boisvert, Haley Adams, and Susan Avis, AE/MS Reading Specialist, created and wrote postcards to Heifer International on Reading Night. Photo: Mike Wiley

Read To Feed Tops \$1,000

AE/MS Kids Buy A Barnyard Full Of Farm Animals To Help Fight Poverty Worldwide

By Amanda Lauster
AE/MS Title I Reading Coordinator

Andover has completed another fun and successful Reading Week from February 5 through February 9. Our theme this year was Read to Feed. Read to Feed is a reading incentive program designed by Heifer International, a non-profit organization.

Read to Feed inspires children to get involved in a hands-on way to help solve global problems like hunger and poverty. Children are asked to get sponsors for each book they read (or unit of time they spend reading).

The goal is to raise money to buy livestock for struggling families who have few resources and need an on-going source of income. These gifts help families move from poverty to self-reliance.

At the end of the program, children collect their pledges, pool their money and decide what type of livestock they would like to buy for families in need.

Read to Feed is an exciting adventure for children. Along the way, they learn many important lessons. They learn about different cultures around the world and learn the importance of using the earth's resources wisely. They learn the value of self-reliance. Maybe most importantly, they learn that they can make a difference in the world.

This was a school-wide project from first through eighth grade. AE/MS raised \$1,004.19 for Heifer International. Thanks to all who made a donation. Through Heifer, we will purchase a flock of chicks, a flock of ducks or geese, bees, tree seedlings, a goat, a water buffalo, and a heifer for those in need.

Some activities that occurred during Reading Week were daily trivia questions to increase students' knowledge about the animals that Heifer provides and how their work can help with the poverty in the world. The winners will be treated to an ice cream party during the first week of March.

We had daily Drop Everything And Read drills and the "farmer" would make surprise visits to classrooms at which time the students had to immediately begin reading. It was very important to keep a book with you at all times.

The highlight of the week was Reading Night on February 8. Although bitterly cold outside, we had 100 people come out to learn more about Heifer International and how they could Read to Feed.

Students and their parents could choose from a multitude of activities. They could create and write postcards to Heifer International. These cards will be sent with our donation. Readers' Theater of Fractured Fairy Tales gave budding actors a chance to show their talents. Students read a humorous rendition of *The Emperor's New Hair*.

There was also a chance to play many word games such as Scrabble, Boggle, and crossword puzzles. For the younger children, there were coloring tables and an opportunity to learn how to milk a goat (using a rubber glove filled with water).

Finally, AE/MS' new laptops were set up so everyone could play games and work on activities on the Read to Feed Web site at ReadToFeed.org.

A highlight of the evening was the presence of some two legged friends. Noah and Kelsie Berry brought their chickens, so many of the students had a chance to get up close and personal with one of the animals we had learned about that week. There were door prizes given throughout the evening, with the grand prize going to Haley Adams. The grand prize was four tickets to Charmingfare Farm in Candia, New Hampshire.

This event was sponsored by the Title I Reading program. We would like to thank everyone who helped make Reading Week a success. We would also like to offer a big thank you to everyone who came out for Reading Night to show our students the importance of reading and helping others.

We know you've been meaning to support the *Beacon*, but you just haven't quite gotten...



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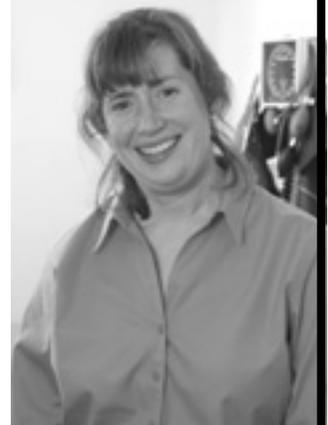
Parent to Parent...

What should I do if my child has sleep problems?

Many sleep problems in young children are harmless and disappear over time. Some children rock their heads until they fall asleep. Others may walk or talk in their sleep.

Young children may experience nightmares and night terrors. Most of us are familiar with nightmares. Less common are night terrors, in which children may act frightened, sweat, cry, or scream but are still asleep. Nightmares and night terrors tend to go away on their own.

You can help your child by recognizing symptoms and talking with your doctor if you're concerned about your child's sleep habits.



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In collaboration with

