

# Gwendolyn's books for Abia DIA Basic School, Ghana – 1,049 books received.

Posted on March 2, 2018

Summary



**1,049 books provided**

by [Books2Africa](#)



**470 learners benefited**

([Students and Teachers](#))



**Dr. Gwendolyn Willis-Darpoh**

Project Coordinator



**Dr. Gwendolyn Willis-Darpoh**

Featured Sponsor

Photos and Videos



# Impact Report



*Written by:*

*Dr. Gwendolyn Willis-Darpoh*

## Introduction

Abia DIA Basic School is located across the street from our house in Abia-Prampram, Ghana, West Africa. It is a government school that is underfunded and lacks so many resources that are essential for success. In spite of this, dedicated teachers do the best that they can with what they have, which isn't much. While there this past June, I visited the school and had an opportunity to observe classrooms and speak with teachers, as well as students. I asked teachers if they had one wish for their school/classroom, what would they wish for. The answer was unanimously BOOKS. As an educator for more than 45 years, I knew that I had to act. Before leaving the school that day, I decided that my mission was to find a way to fulfill this wish. Upon my return to the USA I began researching organizations that might be interested in my cause. Books2Africa came to my attention so I completed the application to secure books for "my" school. Through the generosity of 17 friends and colleagues I was able to raise enough money for the shipping and delivery of 1000 books to Abia DIA Basic School.

## Logistics

After submitting my application to Books2Africa, I established the fundraising mechanism using Justgiving.com. I posted my fundraising story Facebook and asked friends to donate. The books were selected

according to my specifications and boxed by grade level. Books2Africa did an excellent job selecting a wide-range of reading topics including textbooks series, authors of color, fiction and non-fiction. I also requested that the books be delivered to the school to coincide with my travel there as well. The books were delivered to the school on Saturday, February 3, 2018. Since school was closed, the headmaster opened the school to accept the delivery, along with me. On Monday, February 5, 2018 I attended a special assembly to present the books to the entire school, after which teachers sorted through the various subjects and selected books for their classrooms. The entire school was ablaze with excitement and teachers had already developed a book-lending process to ensure student access.

## **Impact**

Thanks to the Books2Africa's support, students in Abia DIA Basic School now have access to a wide-variety of reading material and this has ignited their desire to explore the world through reading. They are dedicated to creating a small library space where children can go and immerse themselves in the written word, thereby improving their mastery of the English language.

## **Conclusion**

Books2Africa helped to open- up a world of reading to the students at Abia DIA Basic School. Teachers and students are excited about the quantity, quality and variety of the books that were selected. This experience was exhilarating and rewarding for those who donated, as well as those who received.

---