

## Reading Month

### Concept Note

The theme for the observance of International Literacy Day 2022-2023 is ‘*Transforming Literacy Learning Spaces.*’ This theme nudges us to reshape and recreate the traditional learning spaces often confined within a school’s walls, and embrace the ubiquity of learning. In our local context, our theme for this year’s celebration of Reading Month is ‘*Reimagining Education through Literacy Learning Spaces.*’ (*Fasonnen Endikasyon pou li èk ékwi an diféwan sitiwasyon.*) This theme provides opportunities for integrative teaching and learning practices across the curriculum, for collaboration across communities, and for inclusion of resources, ideas, and partnerships. Ultimately, we need to be innovative in reshaping the education landscape and placing our learners on the world stage.

Richards (2022) in his new book *reimagining the Classroom: Creating New Learning Spaces and Connecting with the World* declares that ‘everything is education, everywhere is a classroom’ – a reality magnified by the COVID pandemic. The United Nations sustainable development goal for education is to “**ensure inclusive and equitable quality education and promote lifelong learning opportunities for all.**” As educators provide opportunities for all students to develop literacy skills in authentic situations, they are in fact catering to students’ diverse needs which transcend to the formal curriculum. Thus, it is important that we leverage resources and opportunities that will equip students with tools necessary to be fulfilled global citizens. How can we leverage our present resources, reimagine, and reshape practices to suit the 21<sup>st</sup> Century contexts, and meet our students' and society’s present and future needs?

### Goals

This year’s Reading Month theme provides the opportunity to leverage and harness our rich physical, social, and cultural environment. Students, educators, communities, and the wider society are invited to engage in activities to develop not only the knowledge of reading and writing, but also critical thinking and aesthetic nature of literacy. Based on this year’s theme: ‘**Reimagining Education through Literacy Learning Spaces**’, we are encouraged to engage in learning which goes beyond realms of the traditional classroom. These spaces can include the workplace, the community, the library, the home, among other places. It is vital that we enrich our students in experiential background by immersing them in authentic learning spaces that will redound to their overall education. Some activities that can be done are:

- Field trips aligned with the topics in the curriculum.
- School visits from resource persons in the community.
- Setting literacy learning spaces in establishments such as banks, supermarkets, etc.
- Creating learning spaces outside of the classroom (for example under a tree)

## Reference

Richards, T. (2022). *Reimagining the Classroom: Creating New Learning Spaces and Connecting with the World*. John Wiley & Sons

The Global Education Cooperation Mechanism Sustainable Development Goal 4. Retrieved March 2nd, 2023 from [https://www.sdg4education2030.org/the-goal#:~:text=Sustainable%20Development%20Goal%204%20\(SDG%204\)%20is%20the%20education%20goal&text=SDG4%20focuses%20on%20education%20and,lifelong%20learning%20opportunities%20for%20all.%E2%80%9D](https://www.sdg4education2030.org/the-goal#:~:text=Sustainable%20Development%20Goal%204%20(SDG%204)%20is%20the%20education%20goal&text=SDG4%20focuses%20on%20education%20and,lifelong%20learning%20opportunities%20for%20all.%E2%80%9D)

**National Reading Month Calendar - MAY 2023**

**THEME: *Reimagining Education through Literacy Learning Spaces***

*(Fasonnen Endikasyon pou li èk ékwi an diféwan sitiwasyon.)*

Tagline: Learning Everywhere: Anytime

#literacylearningspaces758

MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY
<p><b>1</b></p>	<p><b>2</b></p> <p><b>Launch of Reading Month</b> (Introduce the theme, your interpretation of the theme, and your school's activities for the month)</p>	<p><b>3</b></p> <p><b>Field Trip</b> (Share posters/videos/pictures/based on the theme depicting a learning space within the community e.g visit local fishermen to learn about their profession)</p>	<p><b>4</b></p> <p><b>Innovative Learning Spaces</b> Highlight a teacher who uses unconventional learning spaces</p>	<p><b>5</b></p> <p><b>Business Space</b> Invite students to visit various business places where the students can learn about the day-to-day functioning of the chosen business/ virtual field trips.  Work with businesses to create a learning/reading corner.  <b>(ongoing)</b></p>
<p><b>8</b></p> <p><b>Reading challenge for the month.</b> List a few classicals so that the students can read for the month.  <b>(ongoing)</b></p> <p>Con't...</p>	<p><b>9</b></p> <p><b>Recognizing Progress</b> Highlight a child who has improved in reading for the year.</p> <p>Con't...</p>	<p><b>10</b></p> <p><b>Create a song/poem along with the members of the family to show how the home can be used as a learning space.</b> Share the video of the performance of your song to social media platform of your choice with the hashtag  #literacylearningspaces758</p> <p>Con't...</p>	<p><b>11</b></p> <p><b>Jazz it Up!</b> Collaborate with a musician or an artist. Have students paint their favorite scene in a book or story</p> <p>Con't...</p>	<p><b>12</b></p> <p><b>Celebrate Your Mom Day</b> Outdoor school activity; engage/entertain mothers with song, poems, drama, etc</p> <p><b>Reading Road Show</b></p> <p><b>Saint Lucia Jazz and Arts Festival 2023</b></p> <p>Con't...</p>

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<p><b>15</b></p> <p><b>Cross Curriculum</b></p> <p>Invite a sports team (cricket team) to read to students. Use sports personalities.</p>	<p><b>16</b></p> <p><b>Book Tasting</b></p> <p>Introduce students to various genres, reactivate interest in school library, books related to concepts taught in other subjects, etc.</p>	<p><b>17</b></p> <p><b>Conduct interviews with persons in the community</b></p> <p>“Talk about your most memorable learning experience.” These videos can be shared on social media, on the school’s Facebook page, websites, etc.</p>	<p><b>18</b></p> <p><b>Take it outside!</b></p> <p>Set up a library setting in the yard. Be sure to provide reading material and seating.</p> <p><a href="#">Ideas for Pop-up Libraries</a></p>	<p><b>19</b></p> <p><b>Book Report</b></p> <p>Report on a book using another language</p>

<p><b>22</b></p> <p><b>Collaboration with St Lucia Blind Welfare Association or a Special Education School</b></p> <p>(Resource person/visually impaired person/video: reading with braille, writing with braille, braille puzzles, activities)</p>	<p><b>23</b></p> <p><b>Book Commercials</b></p> <p>Share a book you are reading that links to other subject areas</p> <p><a href="#">Sample Book Commercial</a></p>	<p><b>24</b></p> <p><b>Student News Report</b></p> <p>Create a news item on the theme and your school's reading month activities. Share on your school's page</p>	<p><b>25</b></p> <p><b>Sign Language</b></p> <p>Resource person/hearing impaired person/video: reading with sign language, speaking, other activities</p>	<p><b>26</b></p> <p><b>Character/ Career Day</b></p> <p>Choose an occupation to showcase, conduct research, explain the reason for the selection and talk about the workspace.</p>
<p><b>29</b></p> <p><b>Kwéyòl an lékòl: Kwéyòl toutpatou.</b></p> <p>Speak Creole throughout the day.</p> <p>Explain various creole phrases via video shorts which will be shared via social media platforms.</p>	<p><b>30</b></p> <p><b>Read Alouds with Cooperate Society</b></p> <p>Invite business places to come in to read.</p> <p>Collaborate with a secondary school to read to students</p>	<p><b>31</b></p> <p><b>It's a Wrap!</b></p> <p>Culminate the month's observance by showcasing Literacy Learning Spaces Create a montage.</p>		

**Corporate Activities:** The following are suggested activities which businesses and cooperate society can engage in during the observance of Reading Month.

### **Student News Reporters**

(Anchors, Sports Presenters, Weather Reporters, Radio Announcers, Street Vibes)

### **Behind the Scenes**

(Product development/creation, warehouse packaging and storage, distribution of goods)

### **Learning Corner**

Brochures, magazines, newspapers within the business places highlighting business focus

### **Virtual Tours**

Tours of inside various facilities, the day-to-day activities; short video presentations to be posted on social media or websites

### **Physical Tours**

(Tours of inside various facilities, the day-to-day activities, groups of students from various schools and grade levels)