

"Every child should love to read and have access to quality books, where they see themself well represented." -Dr. Kimberlie Harris

Parents and teachers everywhere are fighting the battle to keep children, especially boys, reading. *I Love a Good Book* is the first book in a series, to be later released, which promotes early literacy and a love of books and reading, especially for boys.

Why I Love a Good Book is Needed

27% of boys (versus 37% of girls) said that they read books for fun at least 5 days a week. Forty-five percent of boys (versus only 36% of girls) said that they often have trouble finding books they like. (Scholastic, <u>Kids</u> and <u>Family Reading Report</u>, 2016). "On the U.S. National Assessment of Educational Progress (NAEP), boys have scored significantly lower than girls in reading at all grade levels every year since 1992 (the first year for which NAEP scores are available). And the gap grows larger, not smaller, as children get older, such that, by twelfth grade, more than twice as many girls as boys (5% versus 2%) scored as "advanced" in reading on the 2015 NAEP (<u>Psychology</u> Today, What is it with Boys and Reading, 2018)".

As an elementary language arts teacher, for the past 16 years, in low income schools, I have seen what this data looks like first hand. Male students don't see themselves as readers, don't see themself represented in books or don't see the value in reading and as a result don't read. This has disastrous effects on their education.

I Love a Good Book aims to help children, especially boys from 0 to 6 years of age, establish an early, positive, relationship with books to create a solid foundation in reading. Subsequent books in the series will positively showcase boys participating in different activities, outside of just "typical sports." *I Love a Good Book* is about a little boy who is a book lover. He loves books with family members, non family members, but he especially loves books on his own, for a surprising reason. *I Love a Good Book* will show children, especially boys, the joy of reading, the positive impact books can have on their futures and encourage them to keep finding more books to love.

Why should you order I Love a Good Book for your students?

- To encourage a positive relationship with books and reading for your youngest students
- To increase the percentage of quality children's literature with a positive emphasis on boys
- To increase the representation of males, diverse children and diverse children's book authors



How can I Love a Good Book benefit students' educational outcomes?

I Love a Good Book is accompanied by lessons that provide practice in: STEM (experimentation), printing/writing, researching, numeracy and comprehension, to name a few. There is also a companion coloring and activity book.

With thanks, Dr. Kimberlie Harris (Author)

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